ALMANAC OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

1776

A YEAR OF WAR

AS REPORTED IN THE NEWSPAPERS OF THE TIME

Compiled by Lee Roscoe and Gerald Roscoe

during our Bicentennial for a syndicated radio show narrated by Frank Blair

With thanks to the New York Public Library rare books rooms.

A draft which may be of interest to the general public during the nation's 250th anniversary.

THE ALMANACK OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
FOR THE YEAR 1776

RESEARCHED BY
LEE ROSCOE
(PREPARED WITH HER FATHER, GERALD)

(c.) 1991 by Lee Roscoe

Containing:

a daily journal of events large and small, historic and dramatic, diverting and entertaining, exactly as reported in the newspapers published in the United Colonies.

In many instances the articles appearing in this Almanack appear reproduced in the exact language of the originals. In other cases, for purposes of clarity, they have been edited.

The newspapers which are the source for this this work are:

Boston Gazette
Connecticutt Courant
Constituional Gazette (Phila)
Continental Jounral (Boston)
Essex Chronicale
Freeman's Journal (Portsmouth, N.H.)
Massachusetts Spy
New England Chronicle
New London Gazette
Newport Mercury
New York Gazette
New York Mercury
New York Packet
Pennsylvania Evening Post
Pennsylvania Gazette
Pennsylvania Journal
Pennsylvania Ledger
Pennsylvania Packet
Providence Gazette
South Carolina Gazette
Virginia Gazette

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REMARKABLE EVENTS IN THE YEAR 1775.
(as reported in the Essex Journal)

Great Britain resolved to hold three millions of people, at 3,000 miles distance from her, by the tenure of her power, after having enjoyed a supremacy over them for 200 years by the tenure of affection.

II. Great Britain risqued the loss of three millions a year, in trade, for taxes; the amount of which could not more than defrey the expense of collecting them.

III. A British Parliament voted an army to enforce British laws upon America.

IV. The parliament of Great Britain decreed, and afterwards a majority of the English nation believed, that the freemen of America would not fight in defence of their liberty.

V. The court of Britain sued to all the European states not to supply the Americans with military stores.

VI. Thirteen Colonies, differing from each other in laws, religion, manners and interests, <u>united</u> to oppose the British troops by arms.

VII. 2000 veteran British soldiers were attacked and defeated by 300 peasants, and were saved from total destruction by running 40 miles in one day. (Battle of Concord and Lexington).

(The material on this and the next two pages is a literal transcript taken from the "Essex Journal", edition of Jan 7,1776. Together with the page entitled "Major Events..." they would appear as an intro to the "Almanack" which begins with the events of January 1,1776.)

VIII. The peasants fought behind stone walls, houses, and other coverings, and were never seen by the regulars, according to Gen. Gage's letter, and yet in the same letter it is said, great numbers of them were killed.

IX. 700 Americans attacked 2500 regulars, and after killing and wounding one half of them retired to their main guard.

X. An army of Americans, commanded by a Virginia farmer, blocked up 10,000 British troops, commanded by three of the ablest generals in the British service. (The siege of Boston).

XI. General Howe consented to enslave a province which erected a monument to the memory of his brother in Westminster Abby.

XII. General Burgoyn came over to America to "coax the gentlemen and to dancethe ladies into submission to the British parliament," and to "temper his punishments with humanity," lived six months upon salt meat, wrote two letters, the one (for Gen. Gage) to Gen. Washington, in which he destined our prisoners to the cord; the other, to a noble Lord in England, both in heroics. Did not inflict a king's punishment upon an American, nor dance with one of our ladies, got into a passion and went home again.

XIII. General Gage called a council of war. His whole army waited with impatience for the event of their deliberations. Some thought that an attack was to be made upon the American army; others, that all the cities on the continent were immediately to be laid in ashes. The council concluded unanimously to publish two intercepted letters written by one of the delegates of the congress to his friends. The whole army rejoiced upon the account of this signal victory.

XV. The Canadians, Savages, and Negroes were struck with horror at the cruelty and injustice of the proposal, and refused to assist her.

XVI. The Canadians desired to join in the American confederacy, their former enmity to the Colonies being now done away: and no wonder, since they were both delivered from the influence of Royal masters who taught them to hate one another.

XVII. Most of the officers of the crown in America gave up their commissions or fled from their habitations. Lord Dunmore (Royal Governor of Virginia) could submit no longer to the restraints of his high birth and office, but turned pirate and highwayman.

XVIII. The American Congress laid the foundation of a fleet, and resolved to protect their own trade, and to oppose their enemies by sea.

XIX. France, Spain and Holland renewed their assurances of their pacific intentions towards the Court of Britain, but privately assisted the Americans with military stores.

XX. The Colonies at last were roused to a proper sense of the injuries they had sustained from the usurpations of the British parliament -- from the insolence of the ministry, the obstinacy and bloody mindedness of the King, and the inhumanity of their brethren in Great Britain, and began to ..... as the only means that they could secure peace, liberty and safety to America.

THE MAJOR EVENTS THAT OCCURRED IN 1775

Apr 19	The first shots are fired in what is to become the American Revolution, during the battles at Lexington and Concord. The British forces pull back to Boston where they are placed under siege by the continental troops.
May 10	Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold capture Fort Ticonderoga and take vitally important munitions and arms.
Jun 17	At the battle of Bunker Hill the British force the patriots to withdraw but suffer very heavy losses.
Jul 3	George Washington assumes command of the Continental Army, with headquarters in Cambridge, Mass.
Sept 13	Benedict Arnold sets off from Cambridge for the long march to Canada, with 1100 men.
Oct 19	Fort Chambly in Canada falls to the Americans.
Nov 2	Fort St. Johns in Canada falls to the Americans after a 55-day siege.
Nov 13	Montreal, Canada falls to the Americans.
Dec.2	Benedict Arnold, after his overland march, and General Montgomery, who led his forces up Lake Champlain, rendezvous 20 miles from Quebec.
Dec 8	Warfare in the southern colonies intensifies during a skirmish at Edenton, North Carolina.
Dec 9	Colonial forces defeat the British in a battle at Great Bridge, Virginia
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January 1, 1776 The British attack Norfolk.

Norfolk, Virginia. (A letter from Colonels Howe and Woodford, in command of our forces in Virginia, to the Virginia Convention, written 10 o'clock at night.) "Between 3 and 4 o'clock a severe cannonade began from all the (British) shipping, under cover of which they landed small parties, and set fire to the houses on the wharves. The wind favored their design and we believe the flames will become general. In the confusion which they supposed would ensue, they frequently attempted to land, but this, by the bravery of our officers and men, we have hitherto prevented, with only a few wounded on our side, and we persuade ourselves with a good deal of loss on theirs. We have stationed ourselves in such a manner as will, we believe, render everything but burning the houses ineffectual. We wait with impatience your further orders..."

American forces are defeated at Quebec.

Quebec. General Montgomery made an attack upon the city yesterday between the hours of four and six in the morning which notwithstanding its being bold and resolute, by some means or other proved not successful. It is probable that about 500 of our troops entered the city, but were overpowered by numbers and heavy cannon. The brave General Montgomery, his aide-de-camp, McPherson, and Captains Cheesma and Hendrick of the riflemen, two or three subaltern officers, and between 60 and 80 privates, fell in this action; and near 300 officers and soldiers taken prisoners, among whom were Lieutenant Colonel Green, Major Bigelow, Major Meigs, and a number of captains and inferior officers. Colonel

Benedict Arnold succeeded in his attempt in taking possession of the lower town, but was wounded in the leg, in the beginning of the action, and Major Ogden in the shoulder, and carried to the general hospital.

A new flag for the United Colonies

Cambridge, Massachusetts. General George Washington unveiled a new flag of freedom, called the Union Flag, in tribute to the United Colonies. The flag, fashioned under General Washington's personal direction, was hoisted in Cambridge Common and saluted by thirteen cannon. The new American flag has thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, and in the upper left-hand corner it has the British Union, a combination of crosses of St. Andrew and St. George.

Massachusetts chooses delegates to Congress.

Cambridge, [redacted]. Both houses of assembly have chosen five delegates to represent the colony in American Congress for this year. The Honorable John Hancock, Samuel Adams, John Adams, Robert Treat Paine, and Elbridge Gerry.

British force Scots to serve

New York, N.Y. We are assured that the emigrants from Scotland, who lately put in here to this their port of destination, and who were sent from hence against their will to Boston, have been all forced into the ministerial(British) service, which act of compulsion was not effected without many of them undergoing the greatest tortures, such as their being chained down on their backs to the ring bolts, and fed with bread and water; several of them suffered this torture for three days before they could be brought to yield, and sign the paper of their inlistment(sic). Many of them openly professed their resolution of firing upon

their enemies in action, if reduced to that necessity, declaring that they could never look on the people of this country, among whom they hoped for an asylum from heavy taxes and oppression, in any other light than friends, and therefore could never think of treating them as enemies.

Cambridge, Massachusetts. The People of the Massachusetts Bay had completed 13,000 suits of Soldier Clothes entirely of their own Wool. Flax, and Manufactory, since the Battle of Lexington.

Watertown, Massachusetts. A brig from Portugal, bound to New York, which had been taken by the enemy and ordered to Boston, was retaken a few days ago by one of the continental cruisers, and carried into Plymouth. She was laden with salt, and had on board, when retaken, a mishipman, and six or eight seamen belonging to the enemy.

New York.

(An advertising notice in the New York Gazette)

WRITING taught in six weeks, at one Hour per diem, at Home of abroad, by the Subscriber, W. Elphinston, at his House the lower end of Crown Street. Where specimens of improvement may be seen.

January 2, 1776 British attack on Norfolk continues

Norfolk, Virginia is still under heavy attack from the British ships lying in the harbor. The British fleet is under the command of Lord Dunmore who once ruled as His Majesty's Governor of the Province of Virginia, and who has been declared by General George Washington to be the most formidable enemy America has.

Casualty list arrives from Quebec

The New England Chronicle published a partial list of officers killed during the December thirty-first attack on

Quebec. General Montgomery and Captain McPherson, his aide-de-camp...Captain Cheesma of the First Battalion of Yonkers... Captain Hendrickson of the Pennsylvania Rifle Company... Lieutenant Humphreys of the Virginia Rifle Company, and Lieutenant Cooper of Connecticut.

Philadelphia. A historic resolution was passed by the American Congress, which read, in part:

Whereas the execrable barbarity with which this unhappy war has been conducted on the part of our enemies, such as burning our defenseless towns and villages...exciting domestic insurrections and murders...bribing the savages to defoliate our frontiers...and casting such of us as the fortune of war has put into their power, into jails, there to languish in irons and in want; compelling the inhabitants of Boston, in violation of the treaty, to remain confined within the town, exposed to the insolence of the soldiery and other enormities at the mention of whcih decency and humanity will for ever blush...may justly provoke the inhabitants of these Colonies to retaliation. Resolved, that it be recommended to them to continue, mindful that humanity ought to distinguish the brave... that cruelty should find no admission among a free people...and to take care that no page in the annals of America be stained by a recital of any action which justice or Christianity may condemn...and to rest assured that whenever retailiation my be necessary, this Congress will undertake the disagreeable task.

Lunenburgh, Massachusetts. William Henderson placed this notice in the New England Chronicle: Sarah, the wife of me, hath eloped from my bed and board without any just provocation.

I forbid any person or persons from trusting her on my account as I declare I will not pay one penny on her account after the date hereof.

January 3, 1776 Norfolk is still under attack.

Norfolk, Virginia. Very heavy firing from the British fleet is continuing round the clock and the patriots are unable to deal with the many fires that have sprung up aroung the town. It appears that the British are intent on destroying one of the first towns in America and the most important center of commerce and activity in Virginia.

British buried Montgomery with dignity.

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress has received news of an extraordinary touch of chivalry on the part of the British Commander in Quebec where the American General Montgomery fell in battle two days ago. Sir Guy Carleton, the British Commander who knew and admired Montgomery when he fought with the British against the French in seventeen fifty-nine recovered Montgomery's body from the snow where he had fallen, brought him into Quebec, and buried him in dignified ceremony.

More British troops expected here.

Boston. The Massachusetts Gazette has learned that a huge fleet of about 100 transports from England may soon be expected in our coastal waters.

January 4, 1176 Norfolk is destroyed.

Norfolk, Virginia. The British bombardment has ended, and Norfolk has been destroyed by cannonade and the subsequent fires.

British ships leave Boston, head for New York.

Boston, Massachusetts. Some ships of the British fleet have been leaving the town and are thought to be headed for

New York where the deposed British Governor, William Tryon, now a refugee aboard a warship off the island of Manhattan, has been trying to organize the Tories against the patriots.

It is reported that the British ministerial troops in Boston are dying with the scurvy and appear to be running out of supplies.

Sir Johnson, Tory leader, assembles hostile Indians.

Albany, New York. A correspondent writes that "Sir John Johnson (notorious Tory) has assembled about 500 men with a few Mohawk Indians, in a hostile manner. The County Committee immediately convened, and ordered the minute men, with four days provision and an ax to every sixth man, to march to Johnson Hall. General Schuyler with a large body of good soldiers was at Schenectady, on his way to Johnson Hall."

Germany admires America's determination.

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Evening Post has received a letter from a correspondent in Europe saying that all Germany is fixed in admiration, wonder and amazement at the firm, determined and heroic spirit of the brave Americans. Great numbers of our Germans live in America and they highly experience in that happy country the sweets of freedom and liberty, which they did not enjoy under their petty, arbitrary rulers. These men will exert every nerve in support of the righteous cause of freedom so sweet to them.

Philadelphia. FIVE POUNDS REWARD. RUN AWAY from Richard Tettermary an indentured Irish servant lad, named John Perry, about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high; fair complexion, red cheeks, black hair, walk a little slooping and clumsy, looks pleasant when talking, is a tolerable handsome lad. Whoever secures said lad..so that his master may have him again, shall have the above reward and all reasonable charges paid.

January 5, 1776

First state constitution is adopted.

Portsmouth, New Hampshire. New Hampshire today adopted America's first state constitution. Every colony has in one manner or another freed itself from the authority of King and Parliament, and now this colony has taken the lead in establishing a new form of government.

Reinforcements arrive in New York

New York. General Lee arrived in Manhattan from Long Island, accompanied by Captain Leary's troops of Light Horse. His arrival is regarded as response to the news that a British fleet may be headed for New York harbor.

Jersey forces today took the British store ship, Green Mountain Valley, the most valuable prize taken since the start of the American War. Her cargo contained 120 chaldrons of coal, 100 barrels of pork, 300 sacks of potatoes, 10 pipers of sauerkraut, four 4-pound cannon, a large quantity of gunpowder, and sundry other goods. 80 live hogs had been brought on the ship from London, but most of them died on the passage.

more British troops rumored to be on way here.

Newburyport. Captain Lee lately arrived here from Malaga informs us that on his passage he spoke a large ship from London loaded with provisions for the (British) ministerial troops at Boston. The captain of which told him that he sailed in company with a number of other vessels loaded for the same purpose, and that the ministry were to send fifty thousand troops early in the spring, to America.

Stolen horse reported

Boston, Massachusetts. Ezra Taylor reported today that his horse has been stolen from the shed of Mr. Porter's tavern. Described as a red horse with a blaze on his face, five years old. His mane is cut off, but he has a long tail. He had on a

russet saddle and bridle. Whoever will take up said horse, with saddle and bridle, so that the owner may have them again shall receive four dollars reward..and if they secure the thief so he may be brought to justice, shall receive eight dollars more.

British Sailing for New York

Boston. British ships have been leaving the harbor and are supposed to be headed for New York where the deposed British Governor, William Tryon, though a refugee on a warship in New York Bay, has been trying to organize the Tories against the patriots.

Withdrawal from Quebec.

Quebec. The American troops who were defeated in their attempt to take this city on New Year's Eve have withdrawn about three miles, where they have posted themselves advantageously and are continuing the blockade, waiting for reinforcements which are now on their march to join them.

Negro decoy helps take British tender

Newport, R.I. A boat belonging to a tender of the British was taken at Brenton's Neck. On board were a midshipman and two seamen. It was taken by a party from colonial headquarters in Rhode Island. They were decoyed by a Negro who hailed the tender and informed them he was disposed to go on board to serve King George.

British reinforce troops in Boston

Providence. Three British men of war and eight transports have sailed from Rhode Island for Boston.

Universal Almanac for 1776 published

Philadelphia. James Humphreys, publisher of the Pennsylvania Ledger, has printed his Universal Almanac for the year 1776. It contains the motions of the sun and the moon, the true places and aspects of the planets; the lunations, conjunctions, and eclipses; judgment of the weather; rising and setting of the planets; lengths of days; fairs,

continued.....

courts, roads, etc. etc., together with useful tables, chronological observations, and entertaining remarks.

British pillagers spate children

Williamsburg, Va. A party of men from a British tender came up to the house of Mr. and Mrs. Wells at Mulberry Island, Virginia, and pillaged it of everything valuable, such as bedding, wearing apparel, liquors, a watch, the stock of poultry, and carried off two Negro girls. They told Mrs. Wells that they had orders to burn the house, which they certainly would put in execution had it not been for her earnest entreaty to spare it, as he had some sick children in bed who would surely perish in the flames.

Improving situation noted in Cambridge

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Ledger received a letter from a correspondent in Cambridge, Mass., who wrote, "I have the satisfaction to tell you that things wear a better complexion here than they have done for some time past. The army is filling up. The barracks go on well. Firewood comes in. The soldiers are made comfortable and easy. Our privateers meet with success in bringing in vessels that were going to the relief of the British forces in Boston, which town is in great distress. Besides wanting almost every necessity, they are inoculating for the small pox. The dysentery and the black jaundice prevail, which makes the officers uneasy. No British troops are yet arrived from Ireland. And the three men of war which recently appeared off Marblehead are since gone off without doing any damage."

continued.....

Public is warned of counterfeiter

New York. A certain Zachariah Smith Allen was detected in passing counterfeit 3-pound Pennsylvania bills of the emission of March, 1769. As he has passed a considerable number in this city, the public are desired to be on their guard.

British General sees threat of world war

London. General Conway has objected to calling in foreign troops. He said "If once England sets America the example, she too would apply for foreign aid, and if she offered her commerce to France, that country finding England had applied to Russia for aid, would protect America. And thus a general war would be brought on."

Benedict Arnold awaits reinforcements

Quebec. Colonel Benedict Arnold now in command of our defeated forces there, reports that his men are outnumbered two to one by the enemy but that they have made no move to come out and attack them. He expects reinforcements from Montreal in a few days, and hopes he will be properly supported with troops by the Congress.

Manly takes another prize

Boston. Captain Manly, cruising the bay, discovered a British ship a league or two southeast of Boston Lighthouse. He immediately gave chase to and took her within sight of the ships in Boston Harbor. The prize was loaded with coal from Whitehaven in England.

Congress turns to people for saltpetre

Philadelphia. Congress has published and is distributing a pamphlet to the patriots entitled, "Several Methods of Making Salt Petre." Without salt petre there can be no gunpowder, and without gunpowder there can be no Army. So Congress has thrown the responsibility of providing salt petre directly upon the people.

More troops on way here from England

Boston. It is reported that about 100 sail of transport may be soon expected on the coast from England.

Penn. seeks rations for troops

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Committee of Safety has notified all persons who are willing to supply the officers and men in the naval armament and artillery of the province with certain rations, to send in their proposals. The rations for which the Committee wishes to contract consist of the following for each man each week: seven

continued....

pounds of bread or six pounds flour, ten pounds of beef, mutton or pork, a sufficient portion of salt and vinegar, three pints and a half of rum, or beer in proportion.

New map advertised

Philadelphia. R. Aitken, bookseller, notifies the readers of the Pennsylvania Evening Post that he has published a correct map of the great river St. Lawrence, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and that part of New England in which may be seen the march of Colonel Benedict Arnold from Casco Bay to Quebec by way of the Kennebec River: ornamented with small plans of Quebec, the town of Halifax, and a small perspective of the city of Boston, Price, two shillings.

January 8, 1776

British brig harasses R.I.

Newport, R.I. The British bomb brig Swan, with four tenders, left the harbor, came up the Bay and fired a number of shots at a house on the Narragansett side. The brig and tenders then came up as far as Natwick Neck where they planned to land some men for the purpose of collecting livestock, but an artillery company of ours prevented their accomplishing the mission.

British Captain fails to honor a truce

Newport, R.I. A sloop which had a pass from the British Captain Wallace put off from this town, with a number of families, with their furniture and provisions, to go up the river. But soon after she was brought to by the British men of war and some provisions and two men were taken aboard the ship Rolfe, even though there was truce between this town and Captain Wallace!

Goats Island is burned

Newport, R.I. The Tory houses and barracks on Goats Island were set on fire and destroyed, but whether by people belonging to the British ships of war or by the Continental troops, we are not sure. But it is certain that one or two British tenders were lying in close to Goats Island yesterday morning.

Robber breaks jail

Philadelphia. Thomas Dewees, goaler, reports a jail break by a Dutchman about 50 years of age, named Andrew Yeager. Five feet six inches, wears a blue greatcoat, a large hat, and can speak no English. He was committed to the goal for breaking Rudolph Brenner's store.

New York assembly dissolved

New York. Royal Governor William Tryon, has dissolved the assembly of the province of New York.

January 9, 1776

"Common Sense" is advertised in newspapers

Philadelphia. The first advertisements for a pamphlet entitled "Common Sense" (written anonymously by Thomas Paine) appeared today. Addressed to the inhabitants of America, on the following interesting subjects. I. Of the origin and design of government in general, with concise remarks on the English Constitution. II. Of Monarchy and hereditary succession. III. Thoughts on the present state of American affairs. IV. Of the present ability of America, with some miscellaneous reflections.

Mass. in favor of independence

Cambridge, Mass. The Colonial Convention has issued instructions to the Massachusetts delegation to the Continental Congress empowering it to vote for a general American declaration of independence.

Tea from N.Y. barred in Phila.

Philadelphia. In the Committee of the City and Liberties it was decided that any tea coming in to the city, in this case from New York, be immediately sent back as it is contrary to the third article of the Association.

6 prisoners escape in move to new jail

Philadelphia. All the prisoners, 105 of them, debtors, felons and Tories, were removed to the new jail. Six escaped, breaking the lock on the back door and climbing over the wall. A reward of six pounds is offered for their return.

Lord Dunmore has ammunition to spare

Williamsburg. It is learned that the British Governor Lord Dunmore has ammunition in such plenty that he gives it gratis to any Tories desiring to fight the patriot.

continued.....

Runaway indentured servant reported

Philadelphia. An eight dollar reward is offered for the return of an Irish indentured servant man who ran away from Henry Elbert in the Horse Head in Kent County. He is James Lowerry, but commonly goes by the name of Laverry. He is about five feet seven inches high, by trade a weaver, a good deal pockmarked, pale complexion, black hair commonly tied behind, bold and talkative, had on when he went away a good felt hat, a blue sulled country cloth coat, an old purple silk jacket, a striped underjacket, old black velvet breeches, old patched trousers, new blue-yarn stockings ringed with white on the tops, and shoes. He was bought originally from Mr. William Boyce in New Castle County.

January 10, 1776

Candidates for army surgeons to be examined

Philadelphia. In the Committee of Safety it was resolved that certain doctors will examine those who offer as surgeons to the different battalions. A day convenient for examinations will be appointed, and no one may serve as a surgeon who does not receive a certificate of approval. The Committee will also appoint a second lieutenant to Colonel Bull's battalion, and they will appoint chaplains to six battalions in this province.

All troops are recalled to active duty

Cambridge, Mass. Notice has been circulated by Horatio Gates, Brigadier and Adjutant General, that "All officers, non-commissioned officers, and soldiers belonging to any of the Regiments of the Corps of the United Colonies, under the immediate command of his Excellency General Washington, who are absent upon furlough, recruiting, or by permission of their commanding officers, are to join their respective Regiments by the first day of February; if any officer neglects to pay due obedience to this order he will be immediately cashiered, and any non-commissioned officers or soldiers offending herein will be try'd and punished as deserters."

British appoint peace commissioner

London. A commissioner has been appointed by the court of Great Britain to treat with the colonies on the subject of settling the present disputes, and he has sailed from London, England, bound for Philadelphia.

British bar American ships in Mediterranean

Philadelphia. By Captain Simmons, just arrived from Cadiz, it is learned that the British Consuls in different ports in Europe are depriving the American masters of vessels of their Mediterranean passes.

Negro runaway is seized

Philadelphia. Notice to the public was placed by Paul Kerber, Goaler of Reading Goal, that "Was committed to my custody a certain Negro man who calls himself Will and says he belongs to John Husban in South Carolina. He is supposed to be about 25 or 30 years of age. He says he ran from his master in December, 1774. His master is desired to come within two months from now, to pay charges and take him away, or else he will be sold for the same."

Maid for sale

Williamsburg, Va. To be sold, an English servant-maid's time. She has three months and seven months to serve, can wash, iron and sew exceeding well, and has been used to children. Sold for want of employ.

January 12, 1776

British capture Prudence Island, R.I.

Newport, R.I. The British Captain Wallace, commander of the Swan, came up the river from Newport with all the vessels under his command, consisting of 12 sail, and at four in the afternoon landed about 250 men on the island of Prudence, where about 50 of our men were stationed under the command of Captain Pearce. They were soon fired on by the enemy, which was returned in great spirit, but Captain Pearce, finding the enemy greatly superior in number, retreated, and with his men went off the island, taken off by boats from Warwick Neck. He had one man wounded and taken prisoner, but it is said several of the enemy were killed and wounded.

British transports rumored lost in Channel

Granada, W.I. There is a ship arrived here from London which brings advice of most of the British transports bound for America being lost as the channel was filled with dead cattle and stock of all kinds. And also a poll is supposed to be held in all the counties of England to know who are for and who against America.

Lead mine operating in Conn.

Middletown, Conn. A number of men are working a lead mine here, and several tons of that necessary article will be ready in a short time. The salt petre works are likewise going on there with great success.

January 13, 1776

British driven from Prudence Island

Newport, Rhode Island. More reports have been obtained from Prudence Island, where yesterday our Captain Pearce had to retreat in the face of a large party of invading British troops. At about sunset the enemy burned seven houses on the island. We then landed troops from Warren and Bristol, and a smart engagement ensued which lasted three hours. The enemy were at length drove to their vessels, leaving our people in possession of the island. Our officers and men behaved with the greatest bravery, and had there been boats to bring more men over from Warwick, it is thought that the enemy's whole party would have been killed or taken.

Capt. Baron takes valuable prize

Williamsburg, Virginia. A brig from York was taken by Captain Baron, American privateer. It was bound for the British troops in Boston, loaded with pork, potatoes, eggs, wine, cheese, and dried beets, supposed to be worth five thousand pounds sterling.

Norfolk damage reported

Norfolk, Virginia. It is learned that the mills at Tuckers Point, the distillery, and Mr. Sprowle's house are totally demolished, as is the chief part of Norfolk. A few houses only remain above the church and are occupied by our troops.

January 14, 1776

Harassment continues in R.I.

Newport, R.I. The British brig Swan, under the command of Captain Wallace, made a quick raid on Patience Island in Narragansett Bay, following the skirmish two days ago on Prudence Island. They burned two buildings. They also raided Hope Island where they cut a quantity of wood before returning to Newport.

Benedict Arnold says his men's morale weakened

Quebec. Another report has been sent by Colonel Benedict Arnold from outside Quebec. "The disaster so disheartened the troops that I have had the greatest difficulty to keep them together. Our whole force amounts to now more than 700 men. General Wooster will send reinforcements from Montreal as soon as possible. Our duty is extremely hard and fatiguing in this inclement climate where the snow is now four feet deep upon a level ... but what cannot soldiers do who are fighting for liberty and for their country?"

Tory leader imprisoned

Williamsburg, Va. Col. Kirkland was brought from Cambridge under guard, and was committed to jail. This man was a ringleader of a gang of Tories in the back parts of South Carolina. From thence he went to the Virginia Negro Chief, who sent him to General Howe at Boston, on a tender, which was taken by Captain Manley in the Lee privateer.

January 15, 1776

Mass. privateers capture Irish brig

Boston. A large London vessel laden with coal, cheese and porter bound for the British ministerial army at Boston was taken by our privateers and carried into Newburyport. She was an Irish brig belonging to Lewis Gray, an enemy to the rights of America.

Storm forces British fleet to alter course

Antigua, West Indies. Several British transport ships bound to Boston with provisions and a number of troops on board were blown off the coast and are put into port here.

January 16, 1776

Rush is wed

Princeton, N.J. Dr. Benjamin Rush of Philadelphia was married to Miss Julia Stockton, daughter of the Hon. Richard Stockton, Esq.

British fleet reported leaving S.C.

Charlestown, S.C. The ministerial fleet with Lord William Campbell, Governor, aboard, could not find supplies in South Carolina. They sailed, probably for Georgia. The women and children who had left Charlestown were returned there.

British press protests violations of rights

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Evening Post has published an article from the London Association, Globe Tavern, Fleet Street, regarding Liberty of the Press. "As on the part of Administration, some wanton exertions of despotic power have justly spread an alarm throughout the kingdom, the people cannot with too much vigilance protect their remaining rights from violation. The liberty of the press hath ever been esteemed as one of the choicest blessings a free people can enjoy. Yet we have seen the destruction of that liberty but too successfully attempted by the instrument of despotism. Prosecutions have been commenced by the officers of the Crown, apparently for no other purpose than that of silencing the press, by denouncing ruin to such printers as shall discharge their duty to the public with the becoming spirit of Englishmen. Nor is this all. In the very mode of prosecution an eye hath been had to Star Chamber tyranny. The printers of our newspapers have not been presented on the oaths of jurors, but on the bare suggestions of an officer of the Crown, who by filing informations, ex officio, against his Majesty's

continued....

innocent subjects (to whom no crime whatsoever hath been imputed by their peers) thereby supercedes the utility of grand juries in direct violation of Magna Charta and to the total overthrow of the great bulwark of English liberties.

Schuyler meets with Mohawks to seek peace

Schenectady, N.Y. Gen. Schuyler met with a deputation of the Mohawk Indians. They said, We intended to have gone down to Albany to meet you in order to speak to you, but thank God that He has given us an opportunity to meet you here, as we have some matters to communicate to you.

Schuyler said, I am very glad to see you here, and I shall be glad to hear what the brothers have to say, as my ears are always open to them.

Whereupon Abraham proceeded as follow: Brothers, you lately sent to our place four men. They told us of those military preparations which were making in this quarter. They told us you didn't think it prudent to send armed men among us without first letting us know. The reasons you were coming in this manner were that you heard there were a number of men embodied at St. John's about Johnstown, who intended to destroy the settlements up and down the river. You informed us that you were coming up to see if this were true, and who gave out the commissions, and what were their designs.

At the same time you assured us that no harm was intended against us, the Six Indian Nations, as we had last summer publicly engaged that we would take no part against you in your dispute with the King over the great water. You also assured us it would be their fault

continued....

if any blood was spilled, that you would not be the first aggressor. You were to acquaint the Lower Castle first of the design, and they should send up to the Upper Castle, and they to Oneyda, and they to the Onandaga, and so through the Six Nations.

We thanked your men and were to consider for some time. A small number of us who take care of the news met in council. At our meeting with the Twelve Colonies all obstacles to peace were to be removed, so that we might pass and repass this path without being annoyed. We proposed sending six men to inquire into the truth of this new matter, as it would be a shame to interrupt them as no person would be so mean to give them any obstruction. We never received an answer. Until a woman returning from Albany told us that troops were actually marching in the country. Our chiefs are now hunting in these woods and not dreaming that this path would be covered with blood. We beg you to take care and not to shed any. It seemed strange that cannon should be brought to this country as the Twelve Colonies had so lately opened the path of peace. It seems the only reason they did is so cannon could pass unmolested.

We are mediators between both parties. We told Sir John you would not be the aggressor and that whichever was the aggressor we would pay no further attention to. Sir John has no intention to be the first to shed blood but if the people came to take away his life, he would do as well as he could, as the laws of nature justified every person to stand in their own defence.

It seems Sir John is making military preparations, but if you should go up, and anything bad should happen, we shall look upon you

continued....

as closing the path to peace. We, the sachems, have been able to calm our warriors, but if you aggress they will not be restrained, for they will think themselves deceived if any military force comes into this country.

We are openly declaring our minds to you. We should like to be present at an interview of yours with Sir John. We must take an answer home as to whether your intentions are unfriendly or not.

Schuyler replied: Brothers, it pleased us to hear you declare you would speak your minds freely. We assure you that we shall do the same, and hide nothing from you of what is in our thoughts.

We hold no intentions against you or any other Indians. If we did, we would not have sent you gunpowder or have sent you that message. It is a shame you did not deliver our message to the Six Nations. It would have been a mistake to send six men to the British encampment for they would have carried off the wicked designs of the king's counsellors.

The peace path shall be kept open. We are marching so the people of Johnstown won't cut off our communications. Last summer at St.Johns our warriors were attacked by Indians whom we had no quarrel with. When we defended ourselves, you never blamed us for it. Why not expect the same for our enemies, the king's men? We will not attack unless they attack us. However they can attack our women and children and burn our houses in our absence. If we must fight our enemies, and your warriors join on our side, it will be as St. Johns. We will repel force with force. If you take up arms against us it will be a breach of the treaty so far as it concerns the lower Mohawk Castle. It is our enemies who would like to see the ancient covenant between us broken. Our enemy took arms against us. Whoever takes up arms,

continued....

though he has not struck, must be the true aggressors.

Brothers, your women have sent us a belt. We beg you to assure them of our regard and to intreat your warriors from doing anything to incur our resentment or interrupt that harmony with which we may subsist to the end of time.

The Indians replied: Brother Schuyler, the great man, attend. We are glad of what you say.

And so the Mohawk gladly agreed to write to Sir John for an interview where the sachems would attend and mediate.

New York is raising troops

New York. Gov. Trumbull and the Council of Safety ordered two regiments to be raised under the command of Colonels Waterbury and Ward, in expectation of the arrival here of General Lee. Trumbull has received a letter from Gen. Washington telling him that a British fleet is heading for New York.

Rhode Island is raising troops

Providence. The General Assembly of Rhode Island has ordered another regiment to be raised immediately for the defense of that colony.

British troops marooned in W.I.

Antigua, W.I. Four companies of his Majesty's 55th regiment, who were drove off the American coast and put on to St. John's in great distress, marched through the town from English Harbor to Rat Island barracks. There they are to rest and refresh themselves till a vessel is got ready to carry them to Boston.

Congress restricts recruiting

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress has resolved to formalize and increase recruiting. The Congress resolved that no bought or indentured servants may serve unless they have their masters' permissions.

Negro decoy traps British tender

Newport, R.I. Captain Batton, commander of the colonial Rhode Island forces, tricked the British naval captain Wallace into the loss of three of his staff. Knowing that Wallace had been receiving on board his ship a number of Negroes who had absconded from Newport, and that he usually took the slaves off from Brenton's Point, Batton

continued....

ordered a Negro to stand on the Point and hail Wallace's ship. Wallace swallowed the bait. He ordered a boat ashore with a midshipman and two seamen who were all made prisoners by Captain Batton's men who had been lying in ambush.

Lord Dunmore is hypocrite about slavery

Williamsburg, Va. In spite of the British Governor Dunmore's late proclamation for emancipating such slaves as should repair to his standard, two of his own Negroes with an overseer were seen passing through Fredericksburg on their way to his Berkely plantation. So it seems that his Lordship has not been so very reasonable to his own bondsmen as he wished to be to the property of others, but whom neither he nor his august majesty have the right to meddle with!

January 18, 1776

Negro defies King

Lancaster, Pa. A Negro, tried and found guilty of sheep stealing here, was sentenced to be burned on the hand. Instead of saying "God save the king," as is usual upon such occasions, he roared out with the greatest seeming sincerity "God damn the king... and the Governor too."

Troops march for St. Augustine

Savannah. Six hundred Georgian troops have marched for St. Augustine to reduce that important place to the obedience of the United Colonies.

January 19, 1776

Congress hears of Schuyler's success inN.Y.

Philadelphia. General Schuyler informed the Continental Congress by letter that he has near 3000 men in Tryon County, New York; including 900 militia. He has finished routing the Tories, but he is having a problem keeping his men, who were collected so rapidly and with little discipline,from running into excess.

Clinton sails for S.C.

New York. The British General Clinton has sailed from here intending to commence action against Charlestown, South Carolina.

January 20, 1776 Benedict Arnold reports on his wounds

Quebec. Benedict Arnold who has just been promoted from Colonel to Brigadier General has written from Quebec to the Continental Congress that it was incorrectly reported that he had fallen prisoner to the British there. He luckily escaped and on the death of General Montgomery, the command of the army devolved on him. Arnold reports that he finds the task too great under his present circumstances, having received a wound by a bail through his left leg which by the loss of blood rendered him very weak.

Sloop luckily escapes gale at sea

New York. A sloop sailing from Santa Croix to New York, sprang her mast and boom in a violent gale, and being short of provisions was forced to make for shore. She arrived in St. Eustatia with only four biscuits on board and not one piece of meat.

January 21, 1776

Germans said to admire colonials

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Evening Post has received a letter from a correspondent in Europe saying that all Germany is fixed in admiration, wonder and amazement at the firm, determined and heroic spirit of the brave Americans. Great numbers of Germans live in America and they highly experience in that happy country the sweets of freedom and liberty, which they did not enjoy under their petty, arbitrary rulers. These men will exert every nerve in support of the righteous cause of freedom so sweet to them.

Wet nurse for sale

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Gazette carries notice of the time of a Dutch servant girl to be sold. She is healthy and she has at present a good breast of milk and may be serviceable in any family as a wet nurse. She can be well recommended, and is sold for want of employ and not for any fault.

January 22, 1776 American defeat at Quebec is described

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Evening Post, today learned ~~reports~~ these ~~most material~~ facts about the continental troops' brave but unsuccessful recent storming of Quebec---

General Montgomery had determined to storm the town as soon as a good opportunity offered. His plan was to attack the upper and lower town at the same time. But several of his soldiers having deserted, he was induced to alter his design. He thought it best to make two different attacks upon the lower town, the one at Cape Diamond, and the other St. Rocks. The former was conducted under the immediate command of the General himself, but here a most unfortunate event early took place, viz, the fall of that gallant and able commander, which no doubt damped the ardor of his troops. This was the occasion of a repulse, though not til they had passed the first barrier, and were preparing to attack the second. The other attack was conducted by Brigadier General Arnold(then Colonel)with his own detachment from New England, and Captain Lamb's artillery from New York. They pressed through ~~the~~ St. Rocks, and approached a two gun battery, without being discovered, and attacked it. The enemy bravely defended it above the hour but it was carried. In this attack General Arnold was shot through the leg, and was obliged to be carried to the hospital, as was Brigade Major Ogden, who after spirited and soldier-like conduct was shot in the shoulders. Lieutenant Colonel Green took over(of Rhode Island), who after gaining the battery, pushed on to a second barrier which they took possession of. At the same time the

enemy sallied out from Palace Gate and attacked them in the rear. A field piece which the roughness of the road would not permit their carrying on, fell into enemies hands. The communication between the two detachments was by this means cut off, and after a resolute push for the lower town, these brave soldiers were forced to yield to superior numbers with superior advantage, and submitted themselves prisoners.

The loss of General Montgomery, who well understood the duties of the soldier and citizen, and generously endured other, is greatly regretted by every lover of mankind; but our enemies will soon find that America is becoming the nursery of heros, and that while we are struggling in so glorious a cause as liberty and virtue, she will not want Generals to lead forth her armies and direct them to victory and triumph.

January 23, 1776 American Major raids British at Charlestown, Mass.

Boston. A detachment of 400 of our men under command of Major Nolton crossed over to Charlestown, and burned the houses of a body of soldiers and carpenters and took them prisoner. The British regulars in the fort at Bunkers Hill did not act with the regularity which those gentlemen, who labor to intimidate us with the superiority of red coats over brown coats, would persuade us that they always do; for they kept a very hot and close fire on absolutely nothing at all. That is, they fired without an object. Our people calmly executed their purpose, laughed in security, and in security returned with their captives, without a single man killed or wounded.

Another skirmish outside Quebec

Quebec. The British General Carleton sent troops yesterday to attack our hospital outside Quebec and was repulsed.

either fled or secreted themselves. Several we have in custody. We are making inquiries at how they got their intelligence but are not yet informed. Those that have come in and surrendered their arms are much irritated with those who have led them to opposition. They will be safer in our custody than with their neighbors who have insulted them already.

British repulsed at Norfolk

Norfolk. In an attempt to retake this town near a hundred of the enemy landed from the men of war, under heavy firing of cannon. They set three houses on fire but were soon forced to retire, and the loss they sustained was uncertain. Three of our men were killed by cannon shot.

Round-up of Tories on Long Island reported

New York. A correspondent with the Jersey boys reports--We sent out from Woodbridge, on Wednesday the seventeenth instant with about 600 militia, and were joined at New York with a detachment from Lord Sterling's battalion, consisting of near 300. Friday morning we crossed with all our troops at Horn's Hook, near Hell Gate, and met no opposition; proceeded on our way to Jamaica, took in custody some of the principal persons proscribed, sent out parties and brought in many of those who voted against sending delegates, disarmed them, and required them to sign an obligation we had drawn up, in which we enjoin them not to oppose either the Continental or Provincial Congress, but to be subject to them, and not to aid or assist the ministerial troops in the present contest. From Jamaica we went to Hampstead, where we expected the warmest opposition, but were disappointed, for the inhabitants came in and brought themselves voluntarily. We have got about three hundred stand of arms and a considerable quantity of powder and lead. We are now on our way to Oyster Bay, and shall scour the country as we go. Many of the principals have

January 25, 1776

Skirmish interrupts performance of play

Boston. The New England Chronicle reports that when our troops burnt the houses at Charlestown, the enemy were entertaining themselves at the exhibition of a play, which they called the Blockade of Boston. In the midst of the performance a person appeared before the audience, and with a great earnestness declaring, that the Yankees were attacking Bunker's Hill, the deluded wretches at first took this to be merely farcical, and intended as part of their diversion, but soon convinced that the actor meant to represent a solemn reality, the whole assembly left the house in confusion, and scampered off with great precipitation.

L.I. Tories say leaders deceived them

New York. The Jersey boys are scouring Long Island for Tories. They have taken Justice French and some more ringleaders, and a great many arms. No opposition was made to them. The people curse their Tory leaders, say they deceived them, promised to support them, and in time of danger left them.

January 26, 1776

More British deserters reported in Boston

Boston. We have had many British deserters since the Charlestown fire. One of them stationed at the Charlestown mills, pitched his companion over the dam, and then ran for our camp on Cobble Hill.

Knox completes mission, delivers mortars

Cambridge. Colonel Henry Knox has arrived with 43 cannons and 16 mortars taken from the British at Ticonderoga, after a difficult march of many months' duration through arduous terrain and weather. General Washington was in sore need of these weapons in his siege of the British in Boston.

Land for powder mills is needed

Philadelphia. The Committee of Safety, announces that it is looking for persons, with places upon which to erect powder mills, there being a need for them.

Marylanders are zealous in their patriotism

Baltimore. When the Maryland Committee requested that 48 privates recently be enrolled in Kent County--double the necessary number volunteered, so zealous are the people of Kent in the grand cause of liberty.

January 27, 1776

Manley takes two prizes, almost a third

Boston. The American privateer, Captain Manley, had a very successful day. Cruising Massachusetts Bay he took a British ship a league southeast of Boston Lighthouse. He then took a snow which he espied off Cohasset. Just as his men had taken the last prize, a schooner which was convoying two little provision vessels from Halifax, came up and began an engagement with Captain Manley. But being soon convinced of her error, the British schooner sheared off. Manley would undoubtedly have taken her also had not his crew been weakened by having to man the other two prizes.

Jan. 15

Antigua, West Indies. Several British transport ships bound to Boston, with provisions and a number of troops on board were blown off the coast, and are put into port here.

British raid balked

Williamsburg, Virginia. Six British soldiers and four Negroes landed near to Mr. Nafworthy's in Isle of Wight, Virginia, in order to carry off some sheep which they knew were on the plantation, and likewise to seize Mr. Nafworthy, for whose ransom they expected a large quantity of stock. But one of Nafworthy's Negroes saw them landing and immediately informed his master who dispatched him to a guard detachment which was stationed nearby. They pursued the enemy, took one of their Negroes and drove the others back into their boat.

Penn. needs rags, lint, saltpetre

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Committee of Safety

requests rags and lint, and salt petre for the making of gunpowder. They will send men by to collect it, if you notify them.

January 28, 1776

American forces at Quebec remain optimistic

Quebec. A correspondent in Canada reports to the New England Chronicle--we hear with pleasure that our army, notwithstanding the loss sustained in the late unfortunate attack upon Quebec, still continues to blockade that city...and we have good grounds to believe that the reduction of that capital will be completed before Spring, as we have authentic intelligence that reinforcements from various quarters have been poured in to the assistance of our brave little army.

Another British prize is taken at N.Y.

New York. A British supply vessel was taken at Sandy Hook by our men, brought into port and unloaded. There were hogs on board from London, but many had died on the voyage.

Another British raid is balked at Va.

Williamsburg. A British tender attempted to land at Sprowles plantation, but she was beaten off, killing one man.

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Committee of Safety it was resolved today that certain doctors will examine those who offer as surgeons to the different battalions. A day convenient for examinations will be appointed, and no one may serve as a surgeon who does not receive a certificate of approval.

Reward offered for runaway soldier

Cambridge. One Oliver Sullivan, about 22 years of age, was reported today to have deserted from Captain Whitney's

Company. Sullivan is light complexioned, thin-favoured, and has short hair. A shoemaker by trade, Sullivan had on when he went away a buckskin pair of breeches, a brown overcoat, and white yarn stockings. Captain Whitney has offered to pay a reward of eight dollars for Sullivan's return.

January 29, 1776 EthanAllen bids British captors treat him well

Quebec. Ethan Allen who commanded a party of Americans defeated last fall near Montreal, has written to the British commanding general, saying--in the wheel of transitory events I find myself taken prisoner and in irons. Probably your honor has reasons, to me inconceivable, though I challenge an instance of this sort on the part of the Americans toward any officer of the Crown. On my part, wrote Allen, I have to assure you that when I had the command and took Captain Delaplace and Lieutenant Felton with the British garrison at Ticonderoga, I treated them with every mark of friendship and generosity. I have only to add that I expect an honorable and humane treatment, as an officer of my rank and merit should have.

Schuyler disarms upstate N.Y. Tories

Johnstown, New York. General Schuyler discovered about 600 Tories assembled here, who delivered up their arms to him, without resistance. Schuyler took from them 670 muskets and 9 pieces of loaded cannon. He also brought off 15 prisoners.

British Admiral Graves sails home

Boston. Edward Graves, who had the British command of the Naval Department on the North American station, has sailed home to England on the Preston man of war. His replacement is expected on these shores soon.

British raid Norfolk for tobacco

Norfolk, Virginia. A party from the British man of war in Norfolk harbor went on shore under cover of their cannon and

took out of the warehouses five hogsheads of tobacco, notwithstanding incessant fire from the American riflemen.

January 30, 1776 Thomas Paine reports trouble with his publisher

This notice appeared in newspapers in Philadelphia today--Re the second edition of Common Sense. The author, (Thomas Paine) for the sake of relieving the anxiety of his friends, maketh the following declaration--That he first intended the above work to have been printed in a series of letters in the newspapers, but was dissuaded therefrom, on account of the impossibility of getting them generally interested--That he knew nothing of Robert Bell, who was engaged to print it by a gentleman of the city, and who can but be concerned for the unpleasant situation in which he hath, though from a well meaning motive, involved his friend--that he hath neither directly nor indirectly, received, or is to receive, any profit or advantage whatsoever from the edition printed by Robert Bell--

That over and above the expense of printing, which was to be paid whether the work sold or not, he gave to this noisy man one half of the profits thereof, amounting to upwards of thirty pounds as a present for the trouble he might be at, as the author did not intend to take any on himself, or mean to be known; and that when the news of our repulse at Quebec arrived in this city, he gave the other half, with an order for the payment thereof, together with said Bell's written promise for the same, into the hands of two gentlemen (whose names are left at the bar of the London Coffee-House, and who will authenticate the assertions contained herein) for the purpose of purchasing mittens for the troops ordered on

that cold campaign.

The said gentlemen have not yet been able to settle with Robert Bell according to the conditions of his written engagement. The account of which he hath delivered in not appearing to them equitable; and which if he do not perform within the course of this week, he will find sued for the same, etc. This is all the notice that will ever be taken of him in the future.

Apprentices may not serve in Army without permission

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress has resolved that no Apprentice should serve in the army without his master or mistress's consent. And any in service should be discharged after payment of their just and reasonable charges. People under 21 may within twenty-four hours obtain a discharge by returning the money and objects supplied them.

January 31, 1776 British Frigate Orpheus fails to cross Atlantic

Boston. The New England Chronicle today learned that the Orpheus Frigate of 32 guns from England, bound to America, met with a very hard gale of wind the 30th of November, by which she lost her main and foremast, and was then bound back to refit; she had been out five weeks when the gale took her.

Advt: whale oil for sale

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Evening Post Charles Eddy has placed an advertisement that he now has whale oil in tierces and barrels--to be sold, for cash only.

Norfolk destruction makes reconciliation remote

Norfolk, Virginia. When the American Colonel Howe and his forces abandoned Norfolk, they removed the poor inhabitants, with what effects they could carry. What few houses remained after the British bombardment were likewise destroyed to prevent the enemy taking shelter in them. Thus, in the course of five weeks, has a town which contained upwards of six thousand inhabitants, a place that carried on an extensive trade and commerce, been reduced to ashes, and become desolate through the wicked and cruel machinations of Lord North, and Lord Dunmore and his motley army. Truly may it be now said, never can true reconcilement grow where wounds of deadly hate have pierced so deep.

February 1, 1776

British capture new American brig

Williamsburg. A new brig of Mr. Michael Cristian of Northhampton, arriving from the West Indies, was drove ashore off the mouth of the Cherrystones near Williamsburg and was burnt by British sailors from the man of war, Liverpool. The British, who first stripped her of all her sails and rigging, have also taken a quantity of stock off Hog's Island on the Eastern shore.

British raid Pt. Judith for sheep

Newport, Rhode Island. British vessels left the harbor of Newport and steered for some time towards Block Island, then stood in and anchored under the east side of Point Judith where they landed and took off a number of sheep.

London

General Carlton's wife returns to London

A London newspaper reports that the lady of British General Carleton who defeated the American Army at Quebec, has just arrived from Canada.

British Generals ridiculed by London press

London. A London newspaper ridiculed Generals Gage and Burgoyne--We hear that General Gage on his arrival in England is to be created Lord Lexington, Baron of Bunker Hill. This will prove a poor counterbalance for the disgrace which is sure to be thrown on him by the people, as well as for the hardships he has endured in the town of Boston; where being cooped up to fatten on salt provisions and peas, he has had the mortification to reflect that his troops never sallied out on a successful expedition. It is to be hoped that General Burgoyne will have better luck, for should he either be shot or chance to die of the

scurvy, how can the ministry expect forgiveness of the literary world, which was so highly entertained last year, by that truly classical performance--The Maid of the Oaks.

February 2, 1776

General Howe's brother to command British fleet

London. The St. James Chronicle reports that the British fleet destined to reinforce the Navy in America will consist of fifty-seven vessels. Viscount Howe, Vice Admiral, is to command. He is the brother of General Howe who replaced General Gage in command of the British army at Boston.

Reward offered for lost or stolen horse

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Evening Post notice was given of a strayed or stolen dun-colored horse intermixed with grey, about 15 hands high, all his feet white but the two hind feet not so white as the others, a natural pacer, carries his ears high, has a blaze on his forehead and a mark on his rear-side not very plain. Whoever takes up said horse and secures him so that the subscriber may have him again shall have a reward of fifteen shillings.

New carriage service announced in Mass.

Newburyport. Thomas Wescomb takes this opportunity to acquaint the public that he intends to go with a carriage weekly, from this town to Cambridge, and that he would be glad to serve such as may want him to carry packages etc. to or from Cambridge, or any other business he may be entrusted with. Those who are pleased to employ him may depend upon being served with fidelity, and at a reasonable rate.

Cows wanted by dairy farmer

Newburyport, Mass. Johnathan Moulton of Hampton would be glad to purchase fifty or sixty cows and heifers with calf, the cows must be young, as they are designed to be put on some farms in the country next spring. Notwithstanding the scarceness of hay, he will give a generous price for such as are good.

February 3, 1776 New York City fears British attack

New York. The town is in great confusion. The Congress have recommended to the inhabitants to move out. The British Governor Tryon has sent for the colonial mayor and has assured him that the troops on board the British man of war, Mercury, which recently arrived in the harbor did not intend to land. Nothing hostile has yet commenced but nobody knows how soon it may.

Philadelphia. N.C. Tories and Regulators join British cause

The Pennsylvania Gazette has learned that the British General Donald McDonald has called upon the North Carolina Tory Loyalists to rise against the patriots. Hundreds of Scottish Highlanders recently come to the New World, responded to his call. With them came some of the old Regulators who previously had been hostile to the crown but now have joined the British cause.

Our prisoners in Quebec are treated well

Quebec. An officer from Quebec reports to The New England Chronicle that our men taken prisoner in their defeat of New Year's Eve are being well treated by the British. The field officers are lodged in the cathedral and the soldiers in dwelling houses in the city. They are permitted to walk about and take the air. A straw bed and three blankets are allowed to every two men, and porter or wine is given to them once a day. Our field officers are invited in turn to dine with the British General Carleton.

 Maryland woman bears 5 children in 18 months

Albemarle. Mr. Edward Johnson of that county has had by his wife five children who were all born within the space of eighteen months, and are very healthy and thriving. At this rate, we shall quickly become a numerous and flourishing people!

February 4, 1776

Action subsides in Charlestown, S.C.

Charlestown, South Carolina. The troubles with the Tories are subsided and under control. The British ships lying here were a haven for runaway slaves who plundered the city at night. American forces fired at the ships and they finally departed for Georgia. We have cannon mounted for the defense of town and harbor, and the militia from all parts are marching in.

American patriot escapes from British capture

Providence. Stephen Congdon, American patriot, has made his escape from the British Captain Wallace's ship, the Swan, off Rhode Island. Congdon had been taken prisoner at Jamestown, kept in irons three days, and then sent to Boston.

Newport. The whole ministerial fleet stationed here went out of the harbor, with the wind West Northwest stretched off near Block Island, then stood in under the east side of Point Judah where they anchored. This morning they went up our bay toward Prudence.

February 5, 1776

~~New York. His Majesty's ship Mercury, of 24 guns, arrived in New York Bay from Boston. The arrival alarmed the inhabitants of the city very sensibly.~~

British seize 2 American vessels in West Indies

St. Kitts, West Indies. English men of war have captured two American ships, the brig Greyhound which was sailing for the West Indies and the ship Peggy which was sailing for Europe. Both were sent to St. Kitts by the British.

British Man of War, Rose, reported lost in Channel

Philadelphia. The British man of war Rose which had sailed from Philadelphia some weeks ago for Ireland, to pick up more British troops bound for America, was cast away in the English Channel, and both the vessel and her cargo were lost.

Freemen only are to be recruited by Army

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress yesterday resolved that recruiting officers for the army shall inlist none but healthy, sound, and able-bodied freemen not under sixteen years of age.

Sloop Macaroni arrives after mishap at sea

New York. The American sloop, Macaroni, is arrived at the East End of Long Island from the West Indies. En route, sixteen days ago, the sloop overturned off Cape Hatteras, by which the captain and one of the men were drowned. The whole crew were swept overboard but all

except the two who drowned recovered the vessel again, when she soon righted.

Notice given of desertion by wife

New York. Seth Lee placed this notice in the newspaper today. Whereas Mary, the wife of me, hath eloped from my bed and board, this is to forewarn all persons not to trust her on my account as I will pay no debts of her contracting since her elopement. And I likewise desire that no person will entertain her for perhaps she may leave them the child which she has with her, as she has done before.

February 6, 1776

Refusal to accept Congressional Bills of Credit is traitorous

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress resolved that all those refusing to use the Bills of Credit issued by the Congress, or who obstruct the use of the currency, should be considered an enemy of the colonies. A few merchants, who had refused to take the bills as payment--appeared before the the committee and maintained their conscience wouldn't let them take money emitted for the purpose of war. However, the committee found out that these men have indeed received bills of credit previously, so their objection is not well founded. Therefore they are held up as enemies to their country.

New Jersey is asked to raise another battalion

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress has recommended to the colony of New Jersey that a third battalion be immediately raised, for the service and at the expense of the United Colonies.

British raid Hope Island, R.I.

Providence, Rhode Island. The British ministerial fleet has been cutting wood on Hope Island.

February 7, 1776 Hessian troops reported heading for America

London. The St. James Chronicle has printed an extract of a letter from the British Colonel Faucit, from Hanover, Germany, in which he reports that a column of Hessian troops, consisting of 8,000 men, are marching toward the Hague where they will board ships bound for America. He says that they are most excellent troops and seem fully satisfied with their destination.

Eleven-year old boy makes saltpetre

Pepperell, Massachusetts. A son of the late Joseph Emmerson of that place, aged about eleven years, has made a quantity of genuine salt petre--for gunpowder--taking his directions wholly from the newspapers, without any assistance from any person whatever. A good example for other little children to follow.

Book on Husbandry offered for sale

Philadelphia

This notice appeared in the Pennsylvania Ledger--

Rural Economy, or Essays on the Practical Parts of Husbandry. Now for sale.

Of that proportioned farm which is the most profitable.

Of the best method of conducting farms that consist of all grass or all of arable land.

Of the means of keeping the year round, the most cattle on a given quantity of land. Considerations on the economical conduct of gentlemen farmers.

Of the cheapest way of manuring land.

Of the comparative profit of farming different soils.

Of the new husbandry.

Of experimental agriculture.

Of the management of borders of arable fields.

Of periodical publications concerning rural economies.

Rivers freeze in N.Y. City

New York. The ice obliges the ships to warp close to the wharf. This day the ice in large cakes was chock from side to side, and many people upon it.

February 8, 1776 British ship arrives in N.Y. harbor

New York. The British transport ship Ketty with 200 soldiers on board came in to New York bay supposed to be headed for raiding and plundering. And in consequence of the recent appearance of British men of war in New York, the American General, his excellency the Earl of Sterling, has come in from New Jersey with 1,000 reinforcements.

Mysterious firing of arms at Narrows

New York. A great deal of firing was heard at the Narrows, in New York. No further details are known.

British troops to be paid in silver

London. The St. James Chronicle reports that several hundred pounds worth of silver in small casks is preparing to be sent to Portsmouth harbor to be shipped on board the British men of war bound to America--in order to pay the troops there.

February 9, 1776

News arrives from West Indies

Jamaica, West Indies. European ships are taking in cannon, fearing attack from our privateers. The French seem to be on the American's side, likewise one third of this island at least. Martial law will soon be imposed. And--there is no flour here but what is six months old and musty.

British take two more American ships at sea

Norfolk, Virginia. An American schooner from Ipswich and one from Salem have been taken by the enemy.

Donations requested for Phila. prisoners

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Journal appeared this appeal today--He that giveth to the poor lendeth unto the Lord. There are many unhappy prisoners in the new jail in Philadelphia who are in great distress from want of clothes. It is hoped the affluent and benevolent will not forget them at this inclement season of the year.

The Brig Rodgers is to be sold

Hartford County, Maryland. To be sold-the brig Rodgers with all her sails and rigging as she lately came from the sea, now lying in Swan Creek, Hartford County, Maryland, built by Amos Garrett Esquire of said place. She is a remarkable fast sailor with excellent accommodations, and will carry about 1400 barrels of flour--near two years old. Mast and yards all complete, standing and running rigging half worn, one foresail almost new, one mainsail and one main topsail three-quarters worn, one fore topsail almost new, one fore topsail three-

quarters worn, one main flysail half worn, main topmast stay sail half worn.

February 10, 1776 More troops arrive to defend New York

New York. In addition to the 1000 men who have arrived from New Jersey with General Sterling, 2,000 more are expected from Pennsylvania, 1,000 from Dutchess County in New York, and 2,000 from Connecticut. In all, we may this week have an army here in New York of 8,000 effective men, in the event of an assault by the British fleet standing in the harbor.

British Captain refuses refuge to criminals

New York. Three fellows who had committed a robbery here tried to take refuge aboard the British man of war Phoenix, but Alderman Matthews went on board personally and demanded their return. The captain of the Phoenix immediately ordered them on shore and they are now secured in jail.

Boston. Reward for runaway servant

In the New England Chronicle appears notice of a twenty shillings reward for a servant lad named Thomas Watson, who ran away from Marcus Hook. He is about 17 years of age, by trade a locksmith, had when he went away, a brown coatee with buttons near the same color, whitish flannel waistcoat, black flush breeches, and a black neckcloth. He says he was one of the marines at Bunkers Hill, and shows the mark of a wound on his right side.

February 11, 1776

N.Y. relieved by departure of Mercury

New York. The British man of war Mercury whose appearance in New York last week so alarmed the inhabitants, sailed out of the harbor yesterday at four o'clock, with two transports in convoy, supposed to be heading for the Southward.

British lose small skirmish at Quebec

Quebec. A skirmish has lately happened between a small party of the enemy and our advance guard now encamped outside the city. The enemy had 10 killed, 15 taken prisoners, and were drove back into the city without any loss on our side. General Arnold, it was also learned, has almost recovered of his wounds.

Great Britain will send criminals to Africa

London. The St. James Chronicle reports that a plan is under consideration for all criminals in Great Britain, sentenced for transportation, to be sent to the British settlements on the coast of Africa.

Martial law declared in Nova Scotia

Halifax. The British Governor of Nova Scotia has issued a proclamation publishing Martial Law in that colony.

Military uniforms advertised for sale

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Journal--James Rutland, Lace maker announces that he makes and sells the following articles wholesale and retail. Uniforms for officers and soldiers of all kinds, in gold, silver, silk, worsted thread, made to any pattern, and very fine white mussatees, fit for officers or soldiers to exercise in. If any commanding officer

or other gentleman, wants any particular dress made in gold or silver he may have it done at a short notice.

February 12, 1776

New Yorkers are in distress

New York. Even though the British ships have left the harbor, the city is in much confusion. People in almost every street are loading carts with their goods. What aggravated the distress scene was that the poor were flying with their children to the country, but many of them could scarce pay their ferriage. It is worthy of observation that though some were taking advantage of their brethren by charging exorbitant prices for cartage, freight, etc., there were some acted a worthy part and carried the poor people gratis--an example worthy of notice.

Bad weather deters British from shipping troops

Cork, Ireland. Orders were issued by the British ministry for six transports with the 28th regiment and part of the 46th on board to return and be disembarked--because the British prime minister Lord North has discovered that it is a rather dangerous time of the year to send troops by sea to Quebec.

Mass. colonists asked to save rags

Watertown, Massachusetts. The Massachusetts House of Representatives is requesting the inhabitants to be very careful in saving even the smallest quantity of rags proper for making paper, which will be a further evidence of their disposition to promote the public good--because the colony cannot be supplied with a sufficient quantity of paper for its own consumption without the particular care of its inhabitants in saving rags for the paper mills.

February 13, 1776 British win skirmish at Boston

Boston. A party of about five hundred British soldiers landed on Dorchester Point, and drove off our whole garrison, of about forty men, set a number of houses afire and took an old gentleman who had long lived there, and two small children--and then made off with the utmost precipitation.

American troops entrenched on Cobble Hill under Colonel Agnew were fired upon from the British vessels off Lechmere's Point.

Lee given Canada command. Schuyler succeeds him in N.Y.

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress ordered General Lee to take the command of our forces in Canada. General Schuyler is to succeed in the command in New York.

Book on horses and horsemaaship is published

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Ledger announces the publication of The Modern Riding Master, or a Key to the Knowledge of the Horse and Horsemanship, by the famous Philip Astley, Riding master, late of his Majesty's Royal Dragoons. Adorned with sixteen neat engravings of this manly exercise, it contains necessary precautions in purchasing a horse, the art of Riding, and reducing a horse to proper obedience.

February 14, 1776

Another British ship comes to Boston

Boston. The British man of war, Renown has just arrived.

Rumors continue that peace commissioners are on way

Philadelphia. Recent arrivals from London have informed the Pennsylvania Ledger that the British Administration are at length disposed to come to a reconciliation, and that commissioners are to be sent over with terms to effect it.

Penn. troops arrive in Canada

Montreal. Captain Dorsey and the first company of Pennsylvanians have arrived here.

February 15, 1776

British attack Dorchester Point, Boston

Boston. The enemy again landed 1000 men, with two field pieces, on Dorchester Point in Massachusetts, and burnt all the houses except three, which were saved by our people. The American Captain who was on the Point with 70 men retired to a height and there they defended themselves until they were reinforced by our Colonel Read with 1000 men. The enemy after setting the houses on fire retreated in boats. We lost two men, taken prisoners.

British ship runs aground, sails free

New York. His Majesty's ship, the Asia set sail for Sandy Hook but ran aground near Whitehall, and did not float til high water. She now lies in New York Bay.

February 16, 1776 More British troops reported crossing Atlantic

Philadelphia. Captain Souder who just arrived here from Grenada spoke a vessel from Cork on his passage. The master informed him that twenty five transports, with four thousand troops on board, had sailed from Cork to America. Captain Souder says, that before he left Grenada, a London paper arrived there, in which was a list of the thirty nine commissioners appointed to treat with Congress, among whom were Lord Howe and Governor Johnson.

~~New York. The sloop Macaroni has arrived at the east end of Long Island from the West Indies. About sixteen days ago the sloop overset off Cape Hatteras, by which accident the Captain and one of the men were drowned. The whole crew were overboard but they recovered the vessel again, when she soon righted.~~

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February 17, 1776

New American Navy sails on first mission

Philadelphia. The new American naval fleet commanded by Esek Hopkins has sailed for New Providence in the Bahamas to attack the British garrison there.

Ben Franklin elected to Committee

Philadelphia. Benjamin Franklin, among others, was elected to the Committee for the city of Philadelphia to serve for the following six months.

Carleton will reward British sailors with land grants

Quebec. A correspondent has written to the New York Gazette that the British General Carleton has promised the British sailors in town one hundred pounds and two hundred acres of land, wherever they choose it, if they will defend the town til a reinforcement comes in the spring.

February 18, 1776

American forces retake Dorchester Neck

Boston. Our army at Roxbury has regained possession of Dorchester Neck from the British.

N.Y. militia on defense against British

New York. The British man of war, transports, and tender which fell down the day before from New York harbor to the Watering Place, with two hundred marines on board, intended to commit depredation on Staten Island, and furnish themselves with livestock. General Livingston ordered three hundred of the militia to march forthwith to prevent this, but learning that the fleet had left the Hook the day before, the greater part of the troops were ordered back, and a proper number directed to guard the coast, under the command of Colonel Thomas.

Also, additional numbers of men have arrived in New York City from Dutchess County and Connecticut, so that we now muster about three thousand troops, and more are daily expected.

Dominica expels American

Dominica, West Indies. An American merchant was obliged to leave here when it was found out he had borne arms against his Majesty, and all his effects were seized.

Mariner's death held accident

Boston. A Coroner's inquest was held on the body of a man, on board a ship lying at Long Wharf, and the jurors returned the following verdict: "That the said Hendrick Stevens was a Mariner on board a transport ship called

the Amity's Admonition and that he was working in the hold of the ship, and it appears to us by the evidence produced that he was attempting to get on the Main Deck by a ladder and accidentally fell into the hold between two casks, which fall broke his skull and caused him to die instantly."

February 19, 1776

English newspaper criticizes Gt. Britain

Bristol, England. The Bristol Gazette editorializes that the war between the colonies and Great Britain is now very grave, and that the British are a great part at fault for infringing upon the rights of their fellow men in America.

Attempt to divide American armies in N.C. is thought to fail

North Carolina. The British Governor Martin, of North Carolina, has got his troops between the two American Provincial armies commanded by Colonels Ash and Caswell, to prevent their joining. But it was thought he would not be able to accomplish his design, as great numbers from all parts were daily going to the assistance of the Colonels.

Dr. Hill's American balsam cures many ailments

New York. An advertisement appeared today for Dr. Hill's American balsam, whose virtue and goodness are well known. It is an infallible, innocent, sure and most effectual medicine ever known in the world for all coughs, colds swimming in the head; and a very admirable remedy for children in the whopping cough, and in most all their disorders. Dr. Hill's own direction is wrapped about each bottle to prevent its being counterfeited.

February 20, 1776 British appear to be withdrawing from Boston

Charlestown, Massachusetts. The enemy have taken away their mortars from Bunkers Hill, and carried them into Boston. A British council of war has been going on there for several days. General Howe has advised the Tories to leave the town, and many vessels in the harbor were taken up to transport them and their effects. It was surmised that should another battle ensue, and the British regulars be defeated, they would set fire to Boston, and remove to some other part of the continent. It is the prevailing opinion that something extraordinary will turn up in a couple of days.

New edition of Common Sense is offered

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Evening Post an advertisement was placed for a new edition of Common Sense (written anonymously by Thomas Paine)--selling from a new publisher. The ad warns that Additions to Common Sense published by the former printer, Robert Bell, are not by the author.

Society is formed to aid Phila. prisoners

Philadelphia. A society for relieving the misery of the prisoners in Reading Jail was formed today, and issued a report asking, "who can visit that house of misery and not wish to clothe the naked shivering wretches?"

Delayed British fleet has sailed from West Indies

Eustatia, West Indies. The fleet of British transports blown offshore last fall has now sailed from the West Indies and passed this island today under convoy of the Viper sloop of war.

February 21, 1776

News from Canada arrives late

Today published

Quebec. The Pennsylvania Ledger ~~has received~~ a letter from a correspondent with our troops in St. Rocks Suburbs near Quebec, dated January 23. He wrote--it was thought by many after our late misfortune that we were too weak to maintain our ground, and many talked of retreating, but at a Council of War it was determined to keep up the blockade. The enemy have never dared to sally out of the town against us. And last night a party of Canadians went into the harbor of Quebec and set fire to two of the British vessels, the blaze of which no doubt terrified them, for it enlightened the whole horizon.

British guns taken at Ticonderoga now in Boston

Boston. Captain Manly, the American privateer, has refitted his schooner and will sail in a day or two. Also, the British man of war Foy, lately stationed off Marblehead, Salem and Beverly, has returned to Boston where the American forces have now fixed to their beds six mortars, six eighteen-pounders, ten twelve-pounders, and twelve field pieces of different calibres--all taken from the British fort at Ticonderoga.

New fire engine will be displayed in New York

New York. The fire engine of the water works is now completely finished and will be kept going for several days successively to give every gentleman an opportunity of seeing it; and in order that they may more easily know when it is working a flag will be display'd in the middle of the road which may be seen from any part of the Broadway.

February 22, 1776

French may come to aid of Americans

London. The French ambassador at the British Court has declared that if Great Britain sends any foreign troops to America, the French intend taking an active part.

Rent gouging is deplored

New York. The Gazette has printed a letter from one of its readers saying that some are taking advantage of the times to let out their houses at a higher price than usual, and some indeed have even doubled their rents. This is a crime of dark complexion, a crime endangered by a sordid love of self, brought forth by a principle of ingratitude, worse than the sin of withcraft and nursed to its present state by an implacable hatred to the rights of mankind.

February 23, 1776

Our troops prepare to bomb British in Boston

Cambridge. More preparations are being made by our troops to bombard the town of Boston. All the hospitals were ordered to be cleaned out.

Saltpetre is urgently needed for ~~gunpowder~~

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress today recommended to the several Assemblies and Conventions in the United Colonies to exert themselves in devising farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of salt petre (for gunpowder), and of introducing that manufacture into private families. The Congress also recommended that powder mills be erected in the colonies and that persons well skilled in the manufacture of powder be procured at the expense of the colonies.

~~Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania General Assembly have voted 1500 more men for the immediate defense of the province, consisting of two battalions of rifle men and one battalion of musket men.~~

February 24, 1776 British fleet appears off Maryland Capes

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress has received word from Annapolis that the British General Clinton's fleet has arrived for certain at the Capes and there is also a 56 gun ship from England and that the inhabitants expect a visit from them daily.

In British West Indies, orders are given to seize American vessels/

St. Eustatia. Orders have arrived in the English Islands, West Indies, to seize all American vessels found in any of their ports and it is thought that there will be privateers fitted out against the Americans very soon.

Plantation for sale near Trenton

Philadelphia. An advertisement in the Evening Post--

To be sold, a plantation of 250 acres, well fenced and timbered, about one mile from Trenton situated on the river road. There are a new genteel house and kitchen, a good barn and cow house, cyder mill, a good orchard and meadows. A small brook runs through the same, on which may be built a very convenient spring house.

February 25, 1776 Congress bars ships from sailing to England

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress today passed a resolution that no vessel loaded for Great Britain, Ireland, or the British West Indies be permitted to sail until the farther order of the Congress, and it be recommended to the different Committees of Inspection and Observation to see that the resolution be carried into execution.

Also, the Continental Congress today notified the public that hosiery, shoes, coarse linens, soap, rum, sugar, and wine are much wanted--by our troops in Canada, and that the highest encouragement will be given to all creditable persons who will engage to serve the army in Canada with those articles.

February 26, 1776

Ben Franklin declines recent appointments

The Pennsylvania Ledger has printed a letter from Benjamin Franklin to the Assembly. Franklin wrote: I am extremely sensible of the honor done me by my fellow citizens in choosing me the Representative in Assembly, and of that lately conferred on me by the House, in appointing me one of the committee of safety for this province, and a delegate to the Congress. It would be a happiness to me if I could serve the public duly in all those stations, but aged as I now am, I feel myself unequal to so much business, and...think it my duty to decline a part of it.

I request also that the house would be pleased to dispense with my farther attendance as one of the committee of safety.

British ship Scarborough now off Georgia

Georgia. The British man of war Scarborough, of 20 guns, arrived in Savannah River with an American schooner which she had taken, having 1000 pounds of powder on board.

Congress seeks ways to promote manufacture of firearms

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress appointed a committee to contract for the making of muskets and bayonets and to consider of farther ways and means of promoting and encouraging the manufacture of fire arms in all parts of the United Colonies--which are so badly needed by the Continental Army.

Major fire breaks out in Albany

Albany, New York. A serious fire broke out here and consumed two or three houses, particularly the house of Mr. Robert Henry, merchant, with the chief part of his household furniture and a

large variety of merchandize to a considerable value.

Instigated by British, Indians scalp frontier Americans

Kentucky. The Indians have scalped two or three white people on the Ohio and the British commanding officer in Detroit is offering to pay the Indians 10 shillings for each scalp.

February 27, 1776

American forces win important victory in N.C.

Moore's Creek, North Carolina. The Scottish Highlanders tried to storm the bridge at Moore's Creek held by the patriots, but the Americans, led by Colonel Alexander Lillington drove them back with heavy fire from artillery, rifles and shotguns, and then counterattacked, killing or capturing more than half of the Scots, and routing the remainder.

British expected to attack Savannah

The Savannah. About five or six thousand British troops are in transports near the town. It was expected they would attempt to land and to prevent their doing so, upwards of 1000 Georgia and Carolina militia men were in Savannah...There is great reason to fear that there will be much blood shed.

February 28, 1776 British raiding party is driven off

Newport, Rhode Island. The British Captain Wallace suffered a defeat when he landed his Marines on Conanicut and began to burn the buildings. The enemy was discovered landing by one of our sentinels and a number of our people concealed themselves behind the walls and fences until the enemy came near. Our commander thought it unfair to fire upon the enemy without giving them notice, and so he called out, "Who comes there?" Captain Wallace ordered his men to make ready, upon which our party instantly fired among them, and killed and wounded 30 of Wallace's people. Those that were not wounded of Wallace's party retreated on board the ship with greater haste than they landed.

Conn. sends reinforcements to Canada

Hartford, Connecticut. A battalion is set to march from Canaan for Quebec under the command of Colonel Charles Burrall.

Our victory at Moore's Creek was complete and spee

Moore's Creek Bridge, North Carolina. Further reports were published concerning the recent skirmish there: The enemies had great difficulty crossing the bridge because Colonel Caswell had ordered planks taken from it. Many were shot dead. They retreated very quickly, leaving wagons. They cut the horses from the wagons and mounted them. Many fell into the creek and were drowned. The battle lasted all of three minutes.

Raising of cotton is urged

Philadelphia. The following letter from one of its readers appeared in the Pennsylvania Evening Post--

Pray sir, why confine your attention to Flax? There are other branches of manufacture, which require equal public notice. Woolen goods will be in great demand next winter; but the increase of wool can only be in proportion to the increase of sheep, which cannot be extended beyond a certain degree, and after all, there would not be more than sufficient for stockings. I would therefore recommend Mr. Hinter, that you propose to the gentlemen of Maryland, Virginia, and Carolina, the raising a large quantity of cotton which can be affected there as easily as flax with us. Tobacco, naval stores, rice and indigo, being no longer in demand, their slaves cannot be better employed than in the culture of cotton, which will serve as an excellent substitute for wool, and may be made a valuable article of commerce, in exchange for the flax of

the northern colonies. It would also be good policy for them to instruct the most docile of their Negroes in the arts of spinning and weaving; but be sure you urge those gentlemen the necessity of instantly taking up the subject, otherwise they will inevitably lose a whole year, as the season for sewing cotton seeds is just coming on. Cotton may be worked up for almost every article of apparel, and I think it worthy of notice of Congress to enforce the necessity of its culture. Signed Prompter.

March 1, 1776

British fleet reported heading for Boston

Monserrat, West Indies. Captain Fergus and some other passenger ships from London arrived here and brought news of fifty ships heading for Boston with British troops on board.

British Crown will send 55,000 more troops to America

London. The St. James Chronicle reports that the Council in London has agreed to send the following forces to America this spring--Hessians 12,000, Brunswickers 4,000, Waldeckers 2,000, British 37,000. Total 55,000 men.

British Crown orders transports to be armed

London. The British crown in order to prevent their transports being taken by the small American Provincial privateers have given orders to the Navy that none be taken up under three hundred tons, and these also should have nine pound cannons upon deck for their defense.

British Capt. Wallace is cannonaded in Narragansett Bay

Providence. The British Captain Wallace and his fleet went down the bay to Rhode Island last Friday on which our troops gave him a cannonading as he passed, and when he returned again on Saturday they paid him the same compliment.

Maryland prepares to intercept British ships and prize

Annapolis. Two British men of war and tenders were spotted coming up theBay with a captured Yankee vessel from New England. Messages were dispatched between here and Baltimore to receive them in case they tried to land.

Housekeeper seeks position

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Evening Post a woman who describes herself as a middle aged woman has placed an advertisement that she seeks a place as housekeeper in the country, that she has no objection to teaching children to read and work, can make all sorts of servants' clothes, understands the kitchen perfectly well and can be well recommended.

March 2, 1776

Our troops continue bombarding British in Boston

Cambridge. The Continental Army, assisted by a large body of militia, are now carrying on the siege of Boston with great vigor. Last night our artillery at the fortresses of Cobble Hill and Letchmere Point below Cambridge, and at Lamb's Dam in Roxbury, bombarded and cannonaded the town. Five of our people imprudently went to Dorchester Neck and made a fire, four of them are killed.

French-speaking Negro boy is for sale

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Evening Post appeared a notice for a Negro boy to be sold. He is about 18 years of age, has had the smallpox and measles, can do any kind of housework, understands a little of horses, and talks French.

Canadians rumored to be sending delegates to Congress

Montreal. The inhabitants here are reported to have appointed delegates to join the Continental Congress at Philadelphia.

British battle plan is reported

New York. The New York Gazette has been informed by a correspondent in London that when all the intended British reinforcements arrive in America, our Army will not be attacked. The plan laid down is said to be this--to destroy every town on the sea coast, to draw our army from one place to another, and harrass and starve them, if possible, but to be very careful about coming to a general engagement. But if by

any means our Army can be divided, then the British are to attack them.

The Gazette has also learned from London that Ethan Allen, and about 34 other prisoners have been confined to Penrith Castle.

March 3, 1776

Our Navy's first action is successful

New Providence, Bahamas. The American fleet commanded by Admiral Hopkins put into theisland of New Providence, and took possession of the town of Nassau including its fort and contents. There were two hundred and eighty pieces of cannon, from six to eighteen pounders, and a large quantity of ball and other warlike stores. The Admiral ordered the British Governor and Council, the collector of the Customs, and the judge of the Supreme Court, to be confined in their houses til the stores should be got in, but he suffered no injury to be offered to the persons or property of any of the inhabitants.

Bombarding of Boston intensifies

Boston. The Continental Army, under General Washington's orders, continued today its bombarding and cannonading of the British forces in Boston. The artillery from our fortresses at Cobble Hill and Letchmore Point were firing with great briskness and played almost incessantly. Our shot and shells were heard to make a great crashing in the town of Boston. The enemy returned the fire from their batteries at West Boston, very vigorously. They threw many shells into our battery at Letchmore Point, one into the fort on Prospect Hill, and one or two as far up as Fort Number Two, within a quarter mile of Harvard College.

Manley takes another prize

Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The American privateer Captain Manly took yet another British ship with provisions for the

ministerial troops, and carried her into Portsmouth.

Patriots only will be allowed to settle N.J. county Essex, New Jersey. The Committee of the County has resolved that no person be allowed to settle this county unless they behaved in a manner friendly to American liberty.

March 4, 1776

Boston is Gen. Washington's objective

Boston. General Washington is clearly starting his second bid for the town of Boston. General John Thomas has fortified Dorchester Heights where his artillery will command Boston and be trained on the British ships in the harbor. British Army officers are reported to have been surprised by the speed of the American deployment on Dorchester Heights. Their commander, General Howe, said, "The rebels have done more in one night than my whole army would have done in a month. It must have been the employment of at least 12,000 men." Actually, the American force numbered about 2,000.

Congress imposes price controls

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress has declared and agreed that venders of goods or merchandise will not take advantage of the scarcity of goods, but will sell the same at the rates they have been respectively accustomed to do for twelve months last past.

Capt. Thomas captures British ship

Newburyport, Massachusetts. A 300-ton bark bound from England was taken by the privateer Yankee Hero, Captain Thomas, belonging to Newburyport and carried in there.

Reconciliation deemed to be folly

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Evening Post has received a letter from a reader who said--Common Sense (the pamphlet written anonymously by Thomas Paine) operates most powerfully upon the minds of the people, but its effects are trifling compared with the effects of the folly, insanity, and villainy

of the King and his ministers...The man who now talks of reconciliation and reunion ought to be pelted with stones, when he walks the streets, as a town fool.

March 5, 1776

Ticonderoga cannon control heights of Boston

Boston. Last night a body of the Continental troops took possession of two large hills at Dorchester, about a mile from the south part of Boston where they are now strongly fortified and where they have implanted the 59 cannon that Henry Knox, Commander of artillery, brought down 300 miles from Ticonderoga. These are two of the heights which the British General Burgoyne said command the town of Boston... and which he also said it was absolutely necessary the British troops should be possessed of.

Anniversary of the Boston Massacre is observed

Boston. Today is the anniversary of Preston's massacre in King Street Boston, 1770, when Grey, Maverick, Caldwell, Carr and Attucks, were cruelly murdered by a bank of ruffians, sent hither by George the brutal tyrant of Briton, in order to execute his infernal plans for enslaving a free people. An Oration to commemorate this event and to impress upon our minds the fatal tendency of standing armies being posted in populous cities in time of peace, was pronounced at the meeting house in Watertown.

British vessel runs ashore on Cape Cod

Boston. An English brig bound to the ministerial troops southward ran ashore at the back of the Cape where a number of people went on board, and unloaded her.

March 6, 1776

British believed to be close to leaving Boston

Boston. The New England Chronicle reports that the Tories here are said to believe that the British are on the verge of evacuating Boston. Since the battle of Lexington and Concord last year, Boston has been a city of refuge for Tories of the surrounding towns where they could find a safe retreat from their former neighbors who are now their bitter enemies. The dilemna of the Tories is this: will they stay in Boston if General Howe their protector should leave them to the possible wrath of the returning and victorious patriots...or will they sail off on Howe's crowded ships, with a beaten British army, braving the dangers of March weather on the New England coast?

British will double-man ships sailing for America

London. It is in comtemplation for the British to double-man all the ships of war which shall hereafter sail for America, the extra hands to serve as marines during the voyage, and on their arrival to be incorporated with the troops already there.

Heavy gale does damage at Newport

Newport, Rhode Island. Southeast to Southwest, Newport had a very heavy gale of wind. A ministerial schooner lost her masts and bowsprits. So did a sloop, and Captain Wallace's Rose was within a few rods of going ashore on Hope.

March 7, 1776

False shortages created by certain merchants

Philadelphia. The several district committees having returned their reports relating to salt, rum, sugar, spice, pepper, molasses, cocoa, and coffee, it clearly appears that the scarcity of those articles is artificial, and that several persons, whose names are not published out of tenderness for their families, have formed a cruel design to add to the distresses of their suffering fellow citizens by exacting exorbitant prices for the above articles. A conduct at any time shameful, but at this period of public calamity most barbarous and oppressive, more especially to the poor and middling ranks of life.

March 8, 1776 Colonies enter solemn covenant for defense

Philadelphia. New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Providence plantation, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, The Three Lower Counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina and Georgia entered into a solemn covenant of the United Colonies in North America, for the defense of their liberties and freedom of properties.

Each colony retains its own laws and practices. All colonies have each other as allies. For the management of their common interests and concerns there shall be a General Congress of Delegates. The number of delegates will be in proportion to the number of its inhabitants, not exceeding one delegate for every thirty thousand people. The delegate will be elected by the people of the colony each year. Two thirds vote necessary to make a rule. The Congress will agree on measures for the defense and security of the United Colonies, for restoring peace and harmony with Great Britain, for treaties,commerce, superintending Indian affairs, port offices, peace and war, controversies between colonies, regulating army and land and naval forces appointing officers. No authority to impose heavy taxes or interfere with the internal policy of a colony.

Taxes shall be levied in each colony for support of the army which will be paid to the treasury. No army shall be kept in time of peace except a militia within each colony. Any other British colony acceding to this confederation will be admitted the privileges of the union.

Howe asks permission to leave Boston unmolested

Boston. The British General Howe, in order to preserve the town of Boston from destruction, has sent a flag of truce to General Washington asking permission to embark his troops and sail without molestation. It is supposed that General Howe intends to remove his quarters to the city of New York.

Improvements made in Post Office system

Philadelphia. Regular Constitutional Posts are now established under authority of the Congress, through out all the United Colonies, and the post offices are put under the care of gentlemen of honor and fidelity, so that there may in the future be the greatest confidence in correspondence.

French General orders American vessels protected inW .I.

St. Pierre, Martinico. A brig and a sloop from some part of America, laden with lumber, were taken by one of the British cruisers close in here and this enraged the French General on the island who immediately gave orders for one of his frigates to cruise and protect every American vessel within their limits.

British ships appear off Annapolis

Annapolis, Maryland. British men of war hove up the bay and stood to opposite this town. At the harbor they burnt a shallop loaded with oats, anchored near the mouth of Patapsco.

Serious illness hits Lord Dunmore's fleet

Norfolk, Virginia. The jail distemper rages with great violence on board Lord Dunmore's fleet in Norfolk Harbor,

particularly among the Negro forces. It is positively affirmed that upwards 150 of them have died within a short time and as fast as they expire are tumbled into the deep to regale the sharks which, it seems, swarm thereabouts.

March 10, 1776

British ships at Annapolis are identified

Annapolis, Maryland. The vessels which sailed into the harbor here yesterday are the British sloop Otter and two tenders. It seems they are going to Baltimore to attempt to destroy the American ship, *Defense*.

Ship loses cargo of salt on Long Island

New York. A very fine and almost new ship, loaded with salt, which had been lately seized by his Majesty's ships and ordered for Boston, was cast away on the rocks on Montock Point at the East End of Long Island. The vessel is entirely bilged and the salt all run out. The people on board had great difficulty to save their lives, some of them being much bruised when taken out of the water.

Lord Howe and Sir Amherst are part of British peace commission

London. The Restraining Bill, whereby all American property wherever found will be confiscated has passed both Houses, and 20 Commissioners are embarking on a ship for Philadelphia, with unlimited powers to make peace with the Americans. Among them are Lord Howe and Sir Jeffrey Amherst, with a number of other respectable nobility.

New York merchant judged enemy of the country

New York. A merchant, Annaias Halsey, being brought before the Committee on complaint, was judged guilty of vilifying and discouraging the measures for the redress of our grievances, and has defamed the officers in the Continental service--for which they judge him to be an enemy to his country, and desire all persons to break off trading with him.

British ship reported abandoned on Long Island

New York. A large British man of war was found stripped and abandoned on the East end of Long Island.

March 11, 1776

Defense battles Otter at Annapolis

Annapolis, Maryland. Captain Nicholson took the American ship Defense up river and resolved to retake the Hudson, a large vessel which the British man of war Otter had made prize of, and whose tender was guarding her. The morning was thick and hazy, and the Defense got nearer to them than was expected before they discovered her bearing down upon them. Those on board the tender appeared much alarmed, and quickly pushed off. The Defense seeing the Otter get under way, prepared for battle, but the Otter bore away, and anchored off Annapolis port. Captain Nicholson continued his station some time, and having performed this gallant action, returned with his prize to Baltimore.

Manley captures another British transport ship

Newbury, Massachusetts. The American Captain Manley of the Privateer Lee took yet another British transport ship today, laden with peas, potatoes, pork, 10 packages of medicine, 6 carriage guns and three barrels of powder--and carried her here. On board were a great number of letters for officers in Boston, many of which mention the great difficulty in raising recruits for service in America.

Husband's desertion is announced

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Evening Post, Alice Atkins has placed this notice--Whereas John Atkins, by trade a bricklayer, was seen wheeling a wheelbarrow across the Race Ground for a woman selling liquor, and has not been with me for six nights past; and when he comes home pulls his wife's cap and hair up by the root, and has absconded from me ever since--this is therefore to forewarn all persons not to trust him on my account, as I will pay none of his debts.

March 12,1776 British begin embarkation at Boston

Boston. An American officer has informed the New England Chronicle that we are just now on the eve of the long wished for hour. The enemy are embarking from Boston as fast as possible. All their heavy artillery are embarked with their ordinance stores. God knows where they intend to lodge next. The selectmen of Boston have sent out to acquaint us that if we will permit the British to embark unmolested, they will leave the town standing, but as it was not authorized by General Howe, his excellency General Washington rejected it. We now intend, I believe, to pursue our intentions without remitting in the least. We shall beat them off in greater haste than they imagine.

British supply ship captured at Martha'sVineyard

Martha's Vineyard. An American schooner and several whaleboats near the Vineyard took a British supply ship, and carried her and her twenty hands into Bedford.

Otter leaves Annapolis [redacted]

Annapolis, Maryland. The British sloop Otter, which refused to engage our man of war the Defense yesterday, made sail today from the bay of Annapolis.

March 13, 1776 British will divide continent in three military units

London. According to the St. James Chronicle the continent of America is to be allotted into three divisions, Admiral Shuldham is to command in the river St. Lawrence and to the northward, Lord Howe from thence to North Carolina, and the third division, said to be intended for Sir Hugh Pallifer, from North Carolina to the extent of our settlements.

Penn. will muster troops for its defense

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania General Assembly have voted 1500 men for the immediate defense of this province, to consist of two battalions of riflemen and one battalion of musket men.

March 14, 1776 Bleaching firm hold s annual meeting

Philadelphia. The annual meeting of the United Company of Philadelphia for the promotion of American Manufacturers today set the rules for buying and selling shares in the company, the price of a share until March 16, 1777 being 12 pounds one shilling and six pence.

They are aware of the utility of bringing bleaching to perfection and so have entered into a partnership with Daniel Burvell, a man of approved ability in this business, and have layed down a bleachfield in the township of Marion near John Robert's mill.

They propose laying down cloth with all convenient speed, and whiten a plain linen cloth of 800 reed and under(not exceeding yard wide) at 4 pence per yard, 900 and 100 at 5 pence and all above at 6 pence. Diapers, towelling and bucca bags not exceeding yard wide, at 4 pence, and so in proportion to their widths sheeting likewise, dimitties at 6 pence; lapping and papering 6 pence per piece; stockings 4 shillings per dozen; linen yarn and thread at one shilling per pound weighted when green; cotton at 10 pence per pound.

The owners of the cloth are desired to mark their names and place of abode upon one end of each piece and the number of yards upon the other end, with thread, not silk, which bleaches out, and also to have the pieces as near 25 yards in length as they can.

Those who are pleased to favor this Bleachfield with their custom, may depend on their goods being taken proper care of,

as they will be vigilantly guarded by men and dogs.

London newspaper decries official corruption

London. Extract from an article appearing in the St. James Chronicle--Government has contracted for 1000 luggage wagons, 10,000 horseshoes, and two thousand saddles, for the use of the king's troops inAmerica.

As the Americans were not be duped by ministerial chicanery, recourse hath been had to corruption. One hundred thousand pounds hath been sent over to America, to be properly distributed amongst the members of the Congress. Colonel Barre mentioned this fact on Friday in the House of Commons. It is not to be doubted the Americans themselves are apprised of the transaction, and they know the persons who are entrusted with the distributions of this money. They know how to act on such occasions. They will scarcely permit so large a sum to return to England, at the same time that it is too small to purchase the integrity of America. It is shameful that a parliamentary inquiry is not made into the expenditure of the public money. Who can wonder that ministers should amass such immense fortunes, when they can pocket what they please, and set it down to the article of secret service? No account will be given of the money sent over to bribe the Congress. It will fall under the head of secret service.

March 15, 1776 Taking of Nuke Hill, Boston, is denied

Boston. The New England Chronicle has learned that the Continental forces have not taken the post on Nuke Hill as previously reported. On hearing that the enemy were about to retreat and leave the town, General Washington thought it imprudent and inadviseable to force them with too much precipitation, especially as he wanted to gain time, and be in readiness to oppose them, should they attempt to reland in any part of that or the neighboring colonies.

Georgia inhabitants will destroy Savannah if threatened

Savannah, Georgia. The Council of Safety has resolved that rather than our enemies should possess our capital town, the inhabitants themselves should burn and destroy Savannah, even if they must perish in such a noble conflagration!

British spies found on oyster boat

Baltimore, Maryland. An oyster boat was taken off Baltimore in which were found concealed five British muskets and six men who came from Virginia. They had oysters on board to conceal their intended purpose, being employed by that infamous tool of government, the British Lord Dunmore, as spies, to collect information about the situation in Baltimore. They are all properly confined. We must keep a good look-out and examine all suspected vessels and men.

Congress votes to disarm Tories

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress has resolved to disarm all Tories in all the colonies.

March 16, 1776

Howe's feint fails in Boston

Boston. The beleaguered British General Howe today pretended to be embarking his troops from that town in order to draw off our troops from Dorchester Point where they intended to attack the British lines. But the bait did not take. General Washington secured the heights with 7,000 men, and a reserve of 5,000 to sustain them in case of need. General Howe may be obliged to turn his mock embarkation into a real one. He can no longer stay in Boston as he is infilated on every side by our troops.

Clinton lands in NorthCarolina

Hampton Road, North Carolina. The British General Clinton is landed in North Carolina and the American troops who lately dispersed the insurgents in that colony, are on their march to meet him.

West IndiesFrench reported in favor of Ameficans

Martinico, West Indies. A sea captain reports that the French are very much for the Colonies on the island of Martinico. They wait only for us to declare independency that they may attack the English islands with their whole force, which is much greater than reported here.

Another British prize taken at Martha's Vineyard

Martha's Vineyard. A British ship of 300 tons which had arrived at Sandy Hook from England and was on her way from there to Boston got aground in a gale of wind between Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. Some people from Martha's Vineyard

fitted out an armed sloop, and with sundry small boats, engaged the ship. After an obstinate battle they took her, wounded the Captain with several of the men, and carried them into the Vineyard.

March 17, 1776

British evacuate Boston

Boston. The British ministerial army has evacuated Boston and the forces of the United Colonies are in actual possession. The town, though it has suffered greatly, is not in as bad a state as it might be. A thousand men under General Putnam took possession of the heights as soon as the British left, and they shall be fortified against the possibility of return. The British left their barracks and other works of wood at Bunkers Hill, along with a number of fine pieces of cannon. The British fleet is still in King and Nantasket Roads and where they intend to make a descent next is altogether unknown. (See map 2 for more) (See map 2&3 for more)

Morale of Br tish is low in Quebec

Quebec. The British Governor Carlton has shot 17 of his men for refusing to fight. The few forces under his command as well as the people are divided. Our forces in Quebec amount to 5700 men and they are expected to storm the city the twentieth of March.

HMS Swan runs ashore, but gets free without damage

Newport, Rhode Island. The British ship Swan, Captain Ayscough, was coming into port to receive supplies for the ministerial fleet, when she ran upon the Blue Rocks, where she lay five or six hours, but finally was freed with little damage.

HMS Rainbow is ordered to America

London. The St. James Chronicle reports that orders have been sent to his Majesty's ship Rainbow, of 44 guns, to be fitted out for immediate service in North America. She is already commissioned and the command given to Sir George Collier.

March 18, 1776 Gen. Washington believes British heading for New York

New York. The American Commanders here have received word from General Washington that he supposes the British who yesterday evacuated Boston may be headed for New York. Washington said--I have detached the riflemen and five battalions to your assistance, which will be followed by others, as circumstances will allow. These with what forces you have and can assemble, if there should be any occasion, I trust sufficient to hinder the enemy from possessing the city, or making a lodgement, till the main body of this army can arrive.

British Governor wants New Yorkers to return to Crown

New York. William Tryon, the British Governor of New York, has asked the New York Gazette to publish a letter of his written on the 16th of March from the ship Dutchess of Gordon, exhorting the people of that colony to return to the crown.

Hessian troops ready to sail for America

London. The St. James Chronicle has learned that the first division of Hessian troops destined for American embarked at Stade, Germany and were to sail the first fair wind.

The Chronicle also reported that Sir Jeffrey Amherst has refused going Commander in Chief to America, unless certain land and title grants are conferred upon him.

March 19, 1776 ~~Contrariantbury~~ Six new Generals are appointed

Cambridge, Massachusetts. The following Colonels have been appointed Brigadier Generals in the Continental Army--Armstrong, Thompson, Lewis, Howe, Moore, and Lord Sterling.

British warships take three American ships

Providence. The British ships Rose, Glasgow, and Swan sailed out of Narragansett Bay, Newport, and captured two American vessels sailing from Connecticut. They also took one of our ships from Narragansett Bay and outfitted her with their own weapons.

HMS Ambuscade will sail for America

London. The St. James Chronicle reports that his Majesty's frigate Ambuscade, of 32 guns, is now fitting out at Chatham to carry Sir George McCarthey to his government of Dominica in the West Indies, and the Ambuscade is afterwards to join the British fleet on the North American station.

The Chronicle also reports that six sail of ships from Glasgow with new raised recruits and several transports from London arrived at Cork, where they are to take in their lading of provisions and proceed to America under convoy.

March 20, 1776

British pillage Jamestown plantation

Jamestown, Virginia. A British raiding party descended from their vessel in the James River and pillaged the plantation of Mr. Harrison, carrying with them two Negro men for service as recruits.

American forces strengthen position outside Quebec

Quebec. The American camp before Quebec now has about three thousand men, and they have received cannon, mortars and ammunition. In a few days they should open a five gun battery at Point Levy and a nine gun one at the Plains of Abraham.

March 21, 1776 American forces taking over British positions in Boston

Boston. General Putnam has taken command of all the forts now won by the British evacuation. It is noticed that although many houses were plundered, the Honorable John Hancock's house was left in order. A few Tories have committed suicide since the British left.

Fort Hill in Boston is being fortified against any further attacks from the men of war. Smallpox has at the same time struck a number of places in Boston and the sick are to be carried out of town.

More troops are sent to N.Y. by Gen. Washington

New York. General Washington has detached six regiments to New York, who are 100 miles on their way. Two thousand men from Connecticut are coming, thirteen other regiments will be here, so that we will have an army of at least twenty thousand men in a few days.

March 22, 1776

Crown plans reported by London newspaper

London. The St. James Chronicle reports that eight British regiments are under embarkation orders, destined for Canada. Also, the Royal Highlanders, the Foot Guards, and Burgoyne's Light Horse are to be sent to reinforce General Howe in Boston. Apparently, the Crown has not yet learned that the British have evacuated Boston!

The Chronicle also reports that the common cryer of Portsmouth, England, read at the Royal Exchange, and at Holborn bars, a proclamation of the King encouraging sailors to enter on board the ships of war. The proclamation was afterwards stuck up in divers parts of the city.

South Carolina wants Declaration of Independence

South Carolina. The delegates from South Carolina to the Continental Congress were authorized by their provincial convention to vote in favor of an American declaration of independence.

March 23, 1776

British attack succeeds in Savannah

Savannah, Georgia. The Sons of Liberty have been driven from town by men landed from British men of war. Some four thousand men, however, are marching from Charlestown to their assistance.

Congress authorizes privateering

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress, in view of Britain's instigating violence, harming property and liberty, is allowing any privateering of British vessels and property to be perfectly legal.

News from Great Britain

London. The St. James Chronicle reports the following items:

The Lucretia, with many recruits on board bound to America, was forced to return to Plymouth by stress of weather, having met with some damage at sea.

Admiral Lord Howe will hoist his flag on board the Emerald frigate and proceed without loss of time to Boston.

There is a clause in the treaty with the Hessians that no soldier shall be allowed to settle in America without the consent of his commanding officer...but it is believed that very few Germans will ever return, as it is most probable that those who do not get their brains knocked out will insist upon staying among their own countrymen who have emigrated to America.

In order to prevent a famine among the King's troops this summer in America, every individual who is going out under sailing orders has six months provisions put on board for him.

March 24, 1776

Our troops took valuable booty in N.C.

North Carolina. Our troops have taken from the Highlanders and British Regulators, in the battle in North Carolina, one thousand five hundred rifle guns, all of excellent pieces, two medicine chests, immediately from England, one of them valued at three hundred pounds sterling, one box containing English guineas, thirteen wagons, with a complete set of horses, eight hundred and fifty common soldiers taken prisoner, disarmed and discharged.

Lying off Fort Johnston and Brunswick, in Cape Fear River, are the British ship Scorpion, with Governor Martin, the Raven, the Cruiser, a few small armed vessels and transports. The British General Clinton is expected with more troops.

Congress encourages growth of hemp, flax, cotton, wool

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress has resolved that the assemblies, committes of safety, and councils do exert their utmost endeavors to promote the culture of Hemp, Flax, and Cotton, and the growth of Wool in these United Colonies, to improve agriculture, art, manufacture, and commerce, so that the rich bounties and natural advantages of this country for supporting its people not be neglected.

Boston Tories ask for mercy

Boston. Many of the Tories unable to get off with the evacuating British fleet have thrown themselves on the mercy of their fellow countrymen.

March 25, 1776 British ships still lie off Boston, in Nantas ket Rdad

Boston. The British ships have been in Nantasket Road ever since their embarkation. Their stay there is necessary to prepare for sailing as they were not fit for sailing, having been loaded in great haste and disorder. A deserter tells us they have yards, booms, and masts to fix. Some conjecture they mean to give the American troops a parting blow, as their whole force is now collected, some 15 vessels having arrived with British troops from the West Indies.

London newspaper reports fortifications at Phila

London. The St. James Chronicle carried a report that the city of Philadelphia has taken every precaution to prevent receiving the King's ships. They have built forts eight miles down the river and can assemble forty thousand men for defense of the city.

The St. James Chronicle, London, also reports that a bill for punishing mutiny and desertion, and for the better payment of the British soldiers in North America, received assent by virtue of commission from his royal Majesty. Also, three companies of the Royal regiment of artillery embarked at Woolwich for North America, and the first division of the Guards destined for North America marched from their quarters contiguous to Wimbledon for Portsmouth.

HMs Phoenix tender is cruising off N.J.

New York. A tender fitted out by the British man of war Phoenix is cruising between Sandy Hook and the Capes off New Jersey. She took two sloops and a brig off Egg Harbor. The British landed on Abscomb beach where they plundered a house belonging

to one Steelman, whom they robbed and stripped of everything, even to the clothes on the children's backs.

March 26, 1776 List of stores left by British in Boston is published

Boston. The New England Chronicle has published a true list of the stores left by the British ministerial troops on evacuating Boston: 100 pieces of cannon in town...100 ditto at the castle...4 mortars, 2 of them with beds weighing five tons each, 1500 chaldrons of sea coal, 25,000 bushels of wheat, 100 jars of oil, 150 horses marked G.R. A number of cannon and mortars have also been discovered in the water.

Scottish Highlanders embarking for America

London. The St. James Chronicle reports that a new regiment of Scottish Highlanders has been assembled at Stirling, Inverness and Perth previous to their embarking at Glasgow for North America.

Skirmish outside Quebec

Quebec. Sixty of the enemy seized a convoy of provisions coming to Benedict Arnold's camp outside Quebec. Eighty men were sent by Arnold to pursue them. They overtook them and took 38 prisoners, wounded 2, killed 2, most of them French.

March 27, 1776 Newspaper likens evacuation to passage from Scripture

Boston. The New England Chronicle reports that the British Governor of New Hampshire and a large entourage sailed off from Boston in a fishing schooner during the British evacuation. And the Chronicle quotes from the scripture... "They arose and fled in the twilight, and left their tents, and their horses, and their asses, even the camp as it was, and fled for their lives". This is a good description of the late flight of our enemies, for they left their tents, and their horses and a number of Tories for Asses.

Great Britain and Russia sign treaty

London. According to letters from Genoa, a new treaty has been concluded between Russia and Great Britain, by virtue of which Russia will constantly have a small squadron cruising the Mediterranean, which may be supplied with everything necessary at Gibralter, Portmahon, and such places in the Morea, where Russia has settlements.

March 28, 1776 Forrester taken by British, but his men regain ship and he escapes

Norfolk, Virginia. A sloop bound from Hispanola to Philadelphia, belonging to Mr. Beveridge a merchant of that city, commanded by Captain Forrester, was taken in the bay by a tender belonging to the Roebuck man of war, and one Rogers, a midshipman, with five seamen, were put on board to conduct her to Norfolk, at the same time taking out all hands except the mate and a boy. On her voyage thither, one of the casks of wine in the hold becoming leaky, by some accident, the midshipman and his party went down to stop the leak, when the mate and the boy, with great address shut down the hatches and secured the prisoners and then pushed to the eastern shore. The cargo is worth 400 l. sterling. Captain Hammond on hearing of this affair ordered Captain Forrester who was then aboard the Roebuck up to the prison ship at Norfolk, in a pilot boat with a midshipman and six hands to escort him, but the vessel ran aground on an oyster bank 2 miles below Lord Dunmore's ship. The midshipman ordered one of the hands into a canoe to do something for the relief of the vessel when Captain Forrester seized the opportunity and leaping into the canoe cut the painter with a jackleg knife, on which he swung off with the tide, then turning to the seaman swore he would cut his throat if he offered to obstruct him in his escape. This menace quieted the fellow til Captain Forrester paddled about 100 yards, then finding his escape practicable, he pulled with all his might and both got safely ashore amidst a cloud of curses and imprecations from the midshipman and sailors.

Reconciliation rejected by House of Lords

The Pennsylvania Ledger receive this report from a Correspondent in London.

London. The Duke of Richmond proposed to make an humble address to his Majesty, to hasten a reconciliation, to which the Duke of Cumberland joined, and censured the ministerial measures. But it was rejected, and the plan was determined by his Majesty with Lords Sandwich, Germaine, Howe; and Admiral Montague set out immediately for Portsmouth, in order to sail with his fleet. Admiral Howe was to follow him as soon as the vessel was ready to receive him, so that we shudder the consequences, but hope God will preserve you all.

Evacuation of Boston is now complete

Boston. The British evacuation is now completed, with the last of the King's troops and fleet sailing today from Nantasket Road.

March 29, 1776 Maj. Gen. Lee will command Virginia forces

Williamsburg, Virginia. Charles Lee, Major General in the Continental Army today arrived at headquarters here to take the command of the Virginia troops.

Boston chooses town officers in freedom

Boston. Now that the British have evacuated Boston, the inhabitants assembled at the Old Brick Meeting House and made choice of their town officers for the ensuing year--without special permission of General Gage or any other murderer of the corrupt and abandoned British ministry.

More troops arrive for defense of New York

New York. One thousand rifle men arrived here from Boston. Also Colonel Dayton's battalion from Elizabethtown, and several companies from Connecticut. New York has now about eight thousand men in readiness for a possible attack from the British.

March 30, 1776

Nova Scotians refuse to be drafted

Halifax. The British government has endeavored to enlist part of the inhabitants to act against their American brethren, which they nobly repulsed; in consequence thereof the governor ordered the militia called together and a number to be drafted, when their officers were told by the men that if they attempted tobe drafted,they would fire upon them. This stopped their proceeding any further, and the men club'd their muskets and marched home.

Gen. Heath arrives in New York

New York. Arrived today from Cambridge the Honorable Brigadier General Heath, with about 3,000 of the Continental troops under his command. It is said that the Honorable Major General Putnam is also on his march for this place with his brigade.

17,300 German troops sail for America

London. The St. James Chronicle reports that seventeen thousand three hundred German troops have sailed from the continent for America and Canada.

Newport, Rhode Island. The British ministerial fleet went a little without the mouth of the harbor and Monday evening they all returned and anchored between Gould Island and Coddington's Point, except the Glasgow and a small tender, which kept out all night. As soon as it was light the next day, a party of our troops stationed on this island got down two of their eighteen pounders and played so well upon those rovers, that they hulled the Rolfe two or three times, the Nautilus once or twice, and sent one shot through one of the armed tenders, upon which the British Captain Wallace of the Rose sent a boat to cut away the buoy of his anchor, then slipped his cable, and made off as fast as possible, and the rest of his fleet followed in the utmost hurry and confusion.

Enemy captures American sloop

Philadelphia. The American sloop Liberty of Perth Amboy from St. Eustacia was taken by an enemy tender off the capes of Philadelphia and carried into Norfolk. The Captain and three passengers are made close prisoners. The mate escaped. He says he was at Antigua where 7000 British troops made preparations to sail to some part of the continent.

A dentist advertises his skills

Boston. In the New England Chronicle--Dr. L. Butte, surgeon dentist begs to inform the public that he undertakes to set artificial teeth in so neat a manner that is impossible to distinguish them from those which are natural. He also cleans teeth, however bad, so radically that in half an hour they look

as white as snow; and he has tooth drops which cureth the tooth ache in a few minutes. Also a plaster which cures corns in the toes in twenty four hours, price two shillings and six pense...lip pomatum, and the American oil, which takes freckles out of the face in three days, price seven shillings and six pense. We will wait on any lady or gentleman that shall honor him with their commands.

April 1, 1776

HMS Phoenix destroys the Endeavor

New York. A tender from the British man of war Phoenix today stopped and plundered and burnt the American sloop Endeavor, after a battle in which Captain and mate were seriously wounded.

Manley seizes English brig

Beverly, Massachusetts. The American privateer, Captain Manly, took and sent into Beverly a large English brig, after some resistance. This vessel was purchased by William Jackson at the Brazen Head, who was on board with a number of others, women and children, besides a British sergeant and twelve British pirates.

Sugar, whalebone, spermacetti and spirits--for sale

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Packet gives notice that eight hogsheads of choice sugar, 300 weight of split whalebone, 3 boxes of spermacetti, and one cask of old Jamaica spirits, are to be sold by Josiah Hewes in Chestnut Street.

Arnold describes difficulties outside Quebec

Quebec. Benedict Arnold has written from outside Quebec that he expected to have a reinforcement of three or four thousand men but has not received one thousand. He added--we have been busy collecting materials for batteries at Point Levy to command the shipping and great part of the town, and one on the Heights of Abraham. We did labor under almost as many difficulties as did the Israelites of old, obliged to make brick without straw. The season remains very severe, with

as much as five feet of snow on the ground, hard enough often to bear a man and his horse. We have four hundred sick and wounded in hospital. He also wrote that he is so far recovered from his wound that two days since he rode fourteen miles and walked more than five reconoiter/ing.

April 2, 1776 **Gen. Washington gets thanks from Mass.**

Boston. The Massachusetts Bay Colony delivered a letter of gratitude to General Washington for his great success in forcing the British to evacuate Boston. "When the liberties of America were attacked by the violent hand of oppression, when troops hostile to the rights of humanity invaded this colony, seized our capitol, and spread havock and destruction around it, when our virtuous sons were murdered, and our houses destroyed by the troops of Britain, the inhabitants of this and the other American colonies, impelled in self preservation and the love of freedom, forgetting their domestic concerns, determined absolutely and unitedly to oppose the sons of tyranny...

Convinced of the need of a gentleman of great military accomplishments to discipline and lead the troops, the Honorable Congress of the United Colonies gave a gentleman thus qualified, who leaving the pleasures of domestic and rural life, was ready to undertake this arduous task.

From your acknowledged abilities, and your virtues in public and private life, we had the most pleasing hopes, but the fortitude and equanimity so conspicuous in your conduct, the wisdom of your councils and the mild yet strict government of your army, your attention to the civil constitution of this colony, the regard you have at all times shown for the lives and health of those under your command, the fatigues you have with cheerfulness endured, the regard you have shown for the preservation of our metropolis, and the great address with which our military operations have been conducted, have exceeded our most sanguine expectations, and demand the warmest returns

of gratitude.

The supreme ruler of the universe having smiled on our armys, and crowned your labors with remarkable success, we are now, without that effusion of blood we so much wished to avoid, again in the quiet possession of our capital. The wisdom and prudence of those movements which have obliged the enemy to abandon our metropolis will ever be remembered by the inhabitants of this colony.

May you go on dreaded by those tyrants who claim their fellow men as property. And may future generations, in the peaceful enjoyment of their freedom, the exercise of which your sword shall have established, raise the richest and most lasting monuments to the name of WASHINGTON.

John Lowell Dep. Sec. Pro. Tem.

General Washington returned a most heartfelt letter of thanks for the foregoing letter.

Bedlow's Island, N.Y. raided by Americans

New York. Last night a number of our troops went and set fire to all the buildings on Bedlow's Island, where the British men of war were fortifying it for an asylum for the Tory refugees. They brought off all their entrenching tools, and an abundance of poultry of all kinds. The British man of war Asia fired on our people but no one was hurt.

Five battalions of the continental troops were reviewed by his excellency General Heath, on the green near Liberty Pole. They made a very martial appearance, being excellently

well armed, and all of them young healthy men. They went through their exercise with surprising activity.

100 cannon left by British in Boston

Boston. The enemy left a hundred cannon at Castle William when they evacuated Boston, but each either with a trunsion beat off or spiked up.

April 3, 1776 Privateers receive regulations from Congress

Philadelphia. Congress issued the following rules for private vessels commissioned to war. Instructions to the commanders of private ships or vessels of war, which shall have commissions or letters of marque and reprisal authorizing them to make captures of British vessels and cargoes.

You may by force of arms attach and subdue, and take all ships and other vessels belonging to the inhabitants of Great Britain on the high seas, between high and low water marks except ships and vessels bringing persons who intend to settle and reside in the United Colonies or bringing arms, ammunition, or warlike stores to the said colonies, for the use of such inhabitants thereof as are friends to the American cause which you shall suffer to pass unmolested, the commanders thereof permitting a peaceable search and giving satisfactory information of the contents of the lading and destination of the voyage. You may secondly by force of arms, attack, subdue and take ships and other vessels whatsoever, carrying soldiers, arms, gunpowder, ammunition, provisions or any other contraband goods to any of the British armies or ships of war employed against these colonies.

You shall bring such ships and vessels as you take with guns, rigging, tackle, apparel, furniture, and ladings, to come convenient port or ports of the United Colonies, that proceeding may thereupon be had in due form, before the courts which shall be there appointed to hear and determine causes civil and maritime.

You or one of your chief officers, shall send the pilot to the judge to be examined, all passes and letters and documents etc. shall also be delivered, without fraud, addition or embezzlement.

You shall keep the vessel intact as you found her. If you or any of your officers or crew shall in cold blood kill or maim or by torture or otherwise cruelly, inhumanly, and contrary to common usage and the practice of civilized nations in war, treat any person surprised in the ship you take, the offender shall be severely punished.

You shall inform Congress of your captures and intelligence of what may occur or be discovered concerning the designs of the enemy, and the destinations, motions, and operations of their fleets and armies.

One third of your company shall be landsmen.

You shall not ransom any captive, but shall dispose of them in such a manner as the Congress, or if that be not fitting in the colony where they shall be brought, as General Assembly, or Convention or council of Committee of Safety of such colony shall decide.

You shall observe Congress's instructions. If you shall do anything contrary to instructions, your commission is forfeit and liable to an action of breech of condition of your bond and be responsible to the party grieved.

British transport is aground at Boston

Boston. The Sukey, a large transport ship with four Tories at least on board, is ashore at George's Island, and it is said cannot be got off.

Our troops expect victory at Quebec

New York. By letters coming from Montreal we are informed that the troops are coming in very fast, and filing into Quebec in great spirits, not doubting of being shortly able to reduce that place, as by deserters coming daily out, their situation was known to be very bad, on account of fuel etc, so that they are burning the lower town in order to save the upper; and that many of their inhabitants are compelled much against their will to take up arms and wish to be relieved.

False report of victory at Quebec is published

New York. A gentleman from New London informs us that an express arrived to Governor Trumbull with an account of the surrender of Quebec to the continental forces. (Ed note: This report was incorrect.)

S.C. pledges support to Rutledge

Charlestown, S.C. The General Assembly ordered that the joint address of this house and the legislative council this day presented to His Excellency the President and Commander in Chief, together with His Excellency's answer be forthwith printed and made public.

To His Excellency John Rutledge Esq. President and Commander in Chief in and over the colony of South Carolina.

Nothing is better known to your Excellency than the unavoidable necessity which induced us as members of congress on the part of the people, to resume the powers of government, and to establish some mode for regulating the internal policy of this colony, and as members of the legislative countil and general assembly to vest you, for a time limited with the executive authority. Such constitutional proceedings on our part, we make no doubt, will be misconstrued into acts of the greatest criminality, by that despotism, which, lost to all sense of justice and humanity, has already pretended, that we are in actual rebellion. But, Sir, when we reflect upon the unprovoked, cruel, and accumulated oppressions, under which America in general, and this colony in particular, has long continued; oppressions which gradually increasing in injustice as well as violence, are now, by the inexorable tyranny, perpetrated against the United Colonies, under the various forms of robbery, conflagrations, massacre, breach of the public faith, and open war, conscious of our natural and unalienable rights, and determined to make every effort in our power to retain them, we see your Excellency's elevation from the midst of us, to govern this country, as the natural consequences of such outrages.

By the suffrages of a free people, you Sir have been chosen to hold the reins of the government an event as honorable to yourself as beneficial to the public.

We firmly trust that you will make the constitution the great rule of your conduct. And in the most solemn manner, we do assure

your Excellency, that in the discharge of your duties, under that constitution which looks forward to accommodation with Great Britain (an event which, though traduced and treated as rebels we still earnestly desire) we will support you with our lives and fortunes.

Rutledge's response:

My most cordial thanks are due, and I request that you will accept them, from this solemn engagement of support in discharging the duty of the honorable station to which by your favor I have been elected.

Be persuaded that no man would embrace a just and equitable accommodation with Great Britain more gladly than myself. But until so desirable an object can be obtained, the defense of my country and preservation of that constitution which from a perfect knowledge of the rights and a laudable regard to the happiness of the people, you have so wisely framed, shall engross my whole attention.

To this country I owe all that is dear and valuable, and would, with the greatest pleasure, sacrifice every temporal felicity to establish and perpetuate her freedom.

April 4, 1776 Troops continue to come to defense of New York

New York. Boston, Connecticut, New Jersey and Pennsylvania troops have arrived here, so we have besides this colony's troops, some ten thousand men with Generals Heath, Thompson, and Lord Sterling. Generals Putnam and Sullivan are arriving daily with more troops.

The Raleigh is nearing completion

Portsmouth, N.H. The new American man of war building here will, it's said, be ready to launch in about a month. --the Raleigh.

~~Boston. The selectmen including John Pitts, Oliver Wendell, and Timothy Newell on behalf of themselves and their fellow citizens sent a letter of thanks to General Washington for liberating Boston and Cambridge.~~

Cambridge. ~~We hear that twelve sail of transport vessels, supposed to be from England, arrived last Thursday in Nantasket road, where four or five of the enemy's ships of war remain.~~

Warren's body is found, and reinterred

Boston. The body of Major General Warren was found about three feet underground on Bunker's Hill. It was afterwards carried to Boston, and on Monday last reinterred with the honors and respect due to so illustrious a hero.

April 5, 1776

Georgia asks for a Declarationof Independence

Philadelphia. The delegates from Georgia to the Continental Congress were authorized by their Provincial Convention to vote for a general American declaration of independence.

British assault at Newport is withstood

Newport. The ministerial fleet went a little out the mouth of our harbor, and in the evening they returned and anchored between Gould Island and Coddington's Point, except the Glasgow of 24 guns, and a small tender, which kept out all night. As soon as it was light the next morning, a party of the troops stationed on this island got down two of their 18 pounders and played so well upon those worse than Algerine rovers, they hulled the Rose 2 or 3 times, the Nautilus once or twice, and sent one shot through one of the armed tenders, upon which Captain Wallace of the Rose, sent off a boat to cut away the buoy of his anchor, then slipped his cable and made off as fast as possible, and the rest of his fleet followed in the utmost hurry and confusion, having fired about 15 cannon upon our people without the least effect, though they stood in considerable numbers as open as they could be, without the breastwork or other shelter.

For several hours before and during the engagement a vast number of cannons were heard from the S.E. and about sunrise, 8 or 10 sail of ships, brigs etc. were seen in the East at Block Island, and indeed the flashes of the cannon were seen by some

people about daybreak. These things caused much speculation but on a few hours the mystery was somewhat cleared up for way came the poor Glasgow under all the sail she could set, yelping from the mouths of her cannon(as bad as a broken-legged dog) in token of her being sadly wounded. And though she settled away and handed the most of her sails, just before she came into the harbor, it was plainly perceived by the holes, in those she had standing, and by the hanging of her yards, that she had been treated in a very rough manner. The other vessels stood up the Western Sound, and it appears that they were 12 sail of the continental Navy, very deeply laden with cannon, mortars, cannon shot, bombs, and other warlike stores from the West Indies, so that it is probable their precious cargoes were the sole cause of Mrs. Glasgow's making her escape; her tender it is supposed was taken, also the bomb brig and a schooner, which had been out near a week in search of prey.

As soon as the Glasgow got in, the Nautilus and the Swan stood out to sea. They left her anchored near Brenton's Point. A party of troops saluted the Glasgow with such warmth that she slipped her cable and pushed up the river under all the sail she could make. Apparently all vessels fled then out to sea to complain of the incivility of the Yankees. A sloop of Wallace's came in a few days later looking for the Glasgow and was taken by our privateers.

British Governor of Georgia abdicates

The Savannah ~~Williamsburg, Va~~. Sir James Wright, Governor of Georgia, with his two daughters have retired on board the British ship Scarborough, thereby abdicating his government and leaving behind him an estate valued to 80,000 pounds sterling.

Skins for sale, and blubber

Newburyport, Mass. To be sold by Timothy Dexter, at the Sign of the Glove-- good deer, sheep and moose skins; likewise breeches and a quantity of good blubber.

April 6, 1776

~~Philadelphia. The Continental Congress resolved that no slaves be imported into any of the thirteen United Colonies.~~

South Carolina affirms support of Congress

Charlestown, South Carolina. In General Assembly--that it is the opinion of this house that no measure should be left unessayed to establish the liberties of America, and to place them, as far as may be out of the reach of fraudulent schemes to subvert them by negotiation. They resolved that no colony should individually deal with Great Britain, reparation to made only through the medium of the Continental Congress.

Resolved also that no Britisher landing by seas shall be allowed to land, or if they do may only stay forty eight hours; they may not hold intercourse with any here except with permission of the President of the Continental Congress, and should any person arrive by land they shall be forthwith escorted carefully out of the country.

Benedict Arnold is discouraged

Quebec. Gen. Arnold reports: Our battery at Point Levy has been firing for some days. The mortar battery on the Heights is not quite finished, and in two days we will have another battery at the Little River. There is a great deal of snow, the tops of the fences just now begin to appear. I suppose in a few

days the roads will be impassible. We are discouraged at General Lee's not coming. However, General Wooster is arrived. We should have at least ten thousand men here in case of troops arriving. Otherwise the Canadians who have assisted us will be ruined. This province is the key of America. ~~(letter from Benedict Arnold)~~

Congress establishes export-import rules

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress today resolved that any goods, wares, and merchandize except staves and casks may be exported from the thirteen colonies to any part of the world not subject to the British crown.

All goods except India tea coming from British dominated parts of the world not allowed to be imported. Imports from all other parts of the world acceptable, liable to whatever duties laid by the colonies. This agreement is subject to future change. There will be no slaves imported into any thirteen colonies. That officers to accept bonds and perform inspection of cargo be posted.

That goods coming in from British domination shall be forfeit and disposed of.

By order of John Hancock.

Fort Hill is fortified in Boston

Boston. The provincial troops are now fortifying Fort Hill, and demolishing the lines of Roxbury Neck, which are a defense against the country only.

Gale at sea helps Capt. Champlin escape capture

New London. Captain Samuel Champlin arrived here, 27 days from Eustatia, with a quantity of powder and war-like stores. He had been brought to by a schooner tender of 12 swivel guns, and ordered to put in under her stern til some people could come on board. There were heavy seas. He got clear of them because the wind shifted and blew a heavy gale.

High-bred horse, Badger, at stud

Advertisement in the Pennsylvania Evening Post. Badger, that beautiful high bred English horse, full fifteen hands high and an inch, rising seven years old, will be let to mares the ensuing season at Mr. Jacob Hollingworth's at the Head of Elk, Cecil County, Maryland, at five pounds the season, or three pounds the single leap.

Badger is allowed to have more bone than any blooded horse on the continent and is of a beautiful dapple grey color, and fully strong enough to breed coach horses, being descended from King's plate horse of the highest reputation in England. He was got by Lord Chedworth's famous horse Bosphorous, his dam by the noted Othello, the famous Black and all black, and his grand dam by Flying Childers.

Good grass will be provided for mares and proper care taken of them.

April 7, 1776 HMS Glasgow escapes heavy attacks at Newport.

Newport. Admiral Esek Hopkin's fleet fell in with the Glasgow, the bomb brig that has done so much damage at Rhode Island and that neighborhood. The brig commanded by Captain John Hopkins (Esek's son) first came up with the Glasgow, they soon exchanged the compliments of a broadside, and continued engaged till the Admiral came up, when the Glasgow, finding it too hot for her, ran off. The brig followed, but the Admiral, being unable to keep with her, the man of war got off from them. While the Admiral and Captain Hopkins were foul of the Glasgow, the rest of the fleet were busy with the bomb brig, and three tenders, all of which were taken, and carried into New London, where they had arrived before General Sullivan left it. A gentleman from Newport informs that on the inhabitants hearing the engagement they got down some eighteen pounders, and began to fire upon Wallace and Ayscough, on which they weighed and stood out of the harbor, at which time the Glasgow hove in sight, firing signal guns, on which they stood out to sea, and the Glasgow with them.

Our fleet is from New Providence(Nassau). They have brought from thence six twenty four pounders, a large quantity of shot and shells, some other military stores, and some Tories. The Asia is moved down the harbor two or three miles.

HMS Savage is repulsed at Staten Island

New York. His most unchristian Majesty's ship Savage, and the James pilot boat, came under cover of a thick fog, to

the watering place on Staten Island. Each sent a boat on shore to take in water, of which Captain Stevenson received intelligence, and prepared to attack them. The ship received information of our approach, and a gun fired for the boats to retreat, which they endeavored to effect under a brisk and constant fire from the Savage, but being fired on by our men, and closely pursued, they left one of their cutters behind with thirteen men, three killed, and a number wounded were carried off in the other boat. The prisoners arrived at headquarters ~~off Monday evening~~, together with four deserters from the Phoenix, who inform us that immediately after this fray they were put to short allowance.

By several gentlemen who were spectators of this engagement from Red Hook, we learn that a number of men were seen to drop from the tops and bowsprit of the Savage. Our brave riflemen kept up such a hot and incessant fire on the ship, that she found it expedient to cut her cable, and retreat out of their reach. They left behind them one standard, one musket, speaking trumpet, watch coats, etc.

The Lexington shatters HMS Liverpool off Virginia

Williamsburg. A letter from John Barry in sight of the Capes of Virginia, on board the American brigantine Lexington.

Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that at one PM this day I fell in with the sloop Edward, belonging to the Liverpool frigate. She engaged us near two glasses. They killed two of

r men and wounded two more. We shattered her in a terrible
nner as you will see. We killed and wounded several of her
ew. I shall give you a particular account of the powder
d arms taken out of her as well as my proceedings in general.
have the happiness to acquaint you that all our people behaved
th much courage.

April 8, 1776 Governor's Island and Red Hook are taken by our troops.

New York. One thousand Continental troops stationed at New York went over and took possession of Governor's Island, and began to fortify it; the same night a regiment went over to Red Hook and fortified that place likewise.

Enemy Canadians driven off at Point Levy in Canada

Quebec. A number of Canadians at the instigation of their priests arose with a design to cut off our guards at Point Levey. A party under Major Dubois attacked their advance guard, killed seven, wounded five, and took about fifty prisoners, twenty five of which arrived here last evening. General Wooster arrived before Quebec on Monday.

April 9, 1776 Admiral Hopkins reports to Congress on Navy's first cruise

Philadelphia. The President of the Congress received this letter from Esek Hopkins Esq., Commander in Chief of the American Fleet from on board the ship Alfred, New London. When I put to sea on the 17th of February from Cape Henlopen, not thinking we were in a condition to keep on a cold coast, I appointed our rendezvous for fifteen days. I then formed an expedition against New Providence. On the third of March, we landed 200 marines under the command of Captain Nicholas, and fifty sailors under the command of Lieutenant Weaver of the Cabot, who was well acquainted there. The same day they took possession of a small fort of seventeen pieces of cannon without any opposition, save five guns fired at them. 200 some men were captured. I published a manifesto saying that inhabitants and property should be safe if they did not oppose me in taking possession of the fort and king's stores. This had the desired effect for the inhabitants left the fort mostly alone. Captain Nicholas troops went in and found warlike stores. The Governor, however, had sent 150 barrels of powder off the night before in a sloop. I have taken Governor Montford Brown, the Lieutanant Governor and Mr. Thomas Arwin, who is counsellor and collector of his Majesty's quit rents in South Carolina and Inspector General of his Majesty's customs in America. We have lost touch with the Wasp. The fourth instant we fell in with the east end of Long Island and took the schooner commanded by young Wallace. We later engaged the

Glasgow for three hours. We lost six men and as many wounded. The Cabot had 4 men killed, 7 wounded, the Captain among them. The Columbus had one man lose an arm. We received considerable damage in our ship, our wheel rope and blocks shot away. I did not think proper to follow as thirty of our men were on board the prizes, and this would have brought on an action of their whole fleet. We took the Glasgow tender and arrived the seventh with all the fleet. The officers behaved well on board the Alfred, but too much praise cannot be given the men of the Cabot.

Gunpowder is unloaded despite enemy fire

Lewes, Delaware. Captain Field commanding a schooner sent by the council to Eustatia for powder, boats ferried across the creek to help her unload. A man of war's tender fired upon our guard, broadside. The distance was too great for our fire, so we left off and continued unloading the schooner though still under fire. Our people picked up many of their balls rolling in the sand. The tender dispatched one of the barges to the ship for assistance, who made sail immediately but was soon obliged to come to anchor. About the same time the ship turned the Cape, the British tender anchored within musket fire of the American schooner, and kept a continual fire with her swivels. Constant fire was kept upon both sides for two hours. We undoubtedly wounded their men for we perceived some to fall, and others run to their assistance. They made several efforts to

purchase their anchor which we prevented by our fire, but at last they succeeded. Fortunately, however, one of our swivel shot cut their halyards, and down came their main sail, which obliged them to anchor once more. At last, the wind shifting, they had a boat come to take them off; we then turned our fire on the boat, when two men were seen to fall, the barge returned from the ship to tow them out. Our men escaped unhurt. The militia officers at Lewes, acted with a spirit which does honor to their country.

Sullivan arrives in N.Y.

New York. General Sullivan arrived here with six regiments.

Lost cow turns up at Widow Taylor's

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Evening Post appeared a notice that there came to Widow Taylor's plantation near the Three Mile Run on Germantown Road, a red dry cow with white face, crumpled horns, white belly and white on the end of her tail. Whoever has lost the said cow, by applying to Steward Cateley at the said plantation, proving their property, and paying the expenses, may have her again.

April 11, 1776

N.Y. Commander forbids supplies to British fleet

New York. General Putnam, commander in chief at New York, has given positive orders that the ministerial fleet there shall be no longer supplied with provisions, and that all communication between them and the shore be entirely stopped.

A villainous murder occurs

North Carolina. A most unnatural murder was committed last Friday, near Roanoke Island. A stranger came to Nixenton about the first instant and finding that Captain George Oaks, late of Marbelhead in New England, intended in a small boat to go to Tar River, begged a passage with him, which was given. The murderer, whose name is Joseph Evans, late of Salem County, in the province of New Jersey, before he went off, bought for his horrid purpose a carving knife. The villain stabbed the sleeping man. The inhabitants of the shore heard the cries and secured the criminal.

French are reported eager to enter the war

Curacao. By the accounts we have here, the French are determined to strike a blow somewhere.

Three thousand soldiers are at Port au Prince, and many more at Cape Nichola Mole.

British scow is captured

Watertown, Massachusetts. Three boats with twenty six hands took a scow bound from Grenada to Boston, James Fuz, master, and carried her into Cohasset. Her cargo consists of 354 puncheons of rum, 49 barrels of sugar, 10 barrels of coffee, 3 tons of hay, some wood, and about 10 barrels of pork and beef, a valuable prize.

 Yankees take two vessels in range of HMS Scarborough

Newport, Rhode Island. The ship Scarborough, of twenty guns, a transport ship of 200 tons, a brig loaded with provisions and a sloop loaded with salt, came into this Bay and anchored between Goat Harbor and Conanicut. In the evening, two row gallies commanded by Captains Grimers and Hyer with a number of volunteers from the army of this island, took the brig and sloop, after which a battery at the north part of this town and a battery at Brenton's Point pounced upon the ships. They were forced to move out of the reach of the batteries. Only one of our men was badly wounded. This bold action of taking two vessels close under the stern of a 20 gun ship may probably convince our enemies that the Yankees are not such dastards as the Tories in this country have represented them.

Twenty seven hands were taken in the above attack. The ships were from Georgia.

April 18, 1776 New Tory recruits are taken prisoners

New York. The famous or rather infamous Joshua Barns, from Phillipsburgh, in West Chester County, has lately been very busy in enlisting men for Governor Tryon's service, who were to be called the Governor's Life Guards. He told his recruits that they would all bear the character of gentlemen, and meet with extraordinary good usage, and prevailed upon some deluded people to join him, but on Monday evening six of these new made gentlemen landing on the Jersey Shore, near Powles Hook were attacked, were all taken prisoners and now are in close confinement.

New York Troops from Canada return to N.Y.

This morning arrived in the harbor 23 transports from the eastward, having on board the brigade from Canada commanded by General Sullivan.

A rebuttal to Common Sense appears

Philadelphia. Now selling, published by Robert Bell, Plain Truth, an answer to Common Sense, which shows that independence for America is illusory, ruinous, and impracticable as liberal reconciliation with Great Britain is safe, honorable, and expedient.

April 12, 1776 North Carolina concurs that Independence be declared

North Carolina. ~~It appears to your committee~~ The Select Committee declares that pursuant to the plan by the British Ministry for subjugating America, the King and parliament of Great Britain have usurped a power over the persons and property of the people, unlimited and uncontrolled. And disregarding their humble petitions for peace, liberty, and safety, have made divers legislative acts denouncing war, famine, and every species of calamity against the continent in general.

The British fleets and armies have been and still are, daily employed in destroying the people, and committing the most horrid devastations on the country.

The governors in different colonies have declared protection to slaves who should embrue their hands in the blood of their masters.

~~That~~ the ships belonging to America are declared prizes of war and many have been seized and confiscated.

In consequence of all which, multitudes of the people have been destroyed, or ~~from every circumstance~~ reduced to the most lamentable distress.

And whereas the moderation hitherto manifested by the United Colonies, and their sincere desire to be reconciled to the mother country on constitutional principles, have procured no mitigation of the aforesaid wrongs and usurpations, and no hopes remain of obtaining redress, by these means alone, which have been hitherto tried, your committee are of the opinion that the House should enter into the following resolve--

That the delegates for this colony in the Continental Congress be empowered to concur with the delegates of the other colonies in declaring independency, and forming foreign alliances, reserving to this colony the sole and exclusive right of forming a constitution and laws for this colony, and of appointing delegates from time to time, under the direction of a general resentation thereof, to meet the delegates of the other colonies for such purpose as shall hereafter be pointed out.

The Congress taking the same into consideration, unanimously concurred therewith.

By order James Green, Jun. Secty.

Charlestown, S.C. is defended by cannon and armed vessels

Charlestown, South Carolina. The city is defended by upwards of one hundred and thirty cannon, at the harbor's entrance and around the bay, with Continental and Provincial Battalions. Also three armed vessels, the Defense, the Prosper, the Comet. A Provisional government has been formed. Our superintendent of Indian Affairs has been secured, being guilty of spiriting the Indians against us.

Lord Dunmore sells property of reluctant Tories

Williamsburg. Lord Dunmore forbids goods of any kind to be sold to persons on shore. He has seized a great deal of American property at the demand of Parliament, to be sold at auction, because the owners did not incline to stay on board his fleet and starve, or run the risk falling victims to jail distemper.

 English servant boy is a runaway

Philadelphia. Ran away from the subscriber, an English servant boy, named John Mitford, about fifteen years of age, of a fresh complexion, wears his own hair, light colored and short, and often goes without combing it. He has a stoop in his neck, and when spoken to has a way of staring a person in the face and turning his head on one side. He had on when he went away, a scarlet coattee with white metal buttons, and brown collar, such as fifers of the Philadelphia Second Battalion commonly wear, and old fustian jacket, and often wears a belt around his waist, buckskin breeches, grey ribbed worsted stockings, supposed to be pieced in the heels with a stocking of another color, shoes almost worn out, odd buckles, a home made linen shirt, and an old beaver round hat with a blue ribband and bucks tail in it. It is supposed his great fondness for fifing has induced him to go off, having done so once before, for which he was forgiven, and once with his former master he will in all probability endeavor to get to some of the back or lower countries, or Maryland, to engage himself in that way, as he has taken a fife with him. The morning after he went off he was seen between the Lower Ferry and Darby, and a person answering his description was seen behind a carriage going through Chester. It is therefore requested of the gentlemen, officers and others engaged in the service, if he should offer himself to them, that they will have him apprehended and secured, so as his master may have him again.

April 13, 1776 Gen Washington arrives in New York to prepare defenses

New York. His Excellency General Washington arrived here from Cambridge attended by his aide-de-camps, by Horatio Gates, Adjutant General, and several other gentlemen of distinction--to prepare for an expected attack by the British in the near future.

Provisions for troops are requested of the public

Philadelphia. All persons who are willing to supply the troops of this province with one pound of beef, or three quarters pound of pork or one pound of mutton per man per day, one pound of flour or bread per man per day, three pints of peas or beans, per man per week, or vegetables equivalent thereto, or one pound of Indian meal per man per week, one pint of milk per man per day, one quart of small beer per man per day, or nine gallons of molasses for one hundred men per week; one gill of vinegar per man per week, three pounds of candles for one hundred men per week, twenty four pounds of soft or eight pounds of hard soap for one hundred men per week, are desired to bring or send their proposals on or before the fifteenth instant to Gray, Rittenhouse and Hillegas appointed by the Assembly to contract with them.

Help wanted, for the making of firearms

Philadelphia. A public notice stated that the Committee of

Safety had provided a convenient place for Provincial Lock Factory. All those who wish to contract for the making of firearms may apply. The gun lock factory is established not only to manufacture as many locks as possible but to serve as a school for promoting the knowledge of this necessary business throughout the province. All journeymen smiths, lock makers, and other persons, who have been accustomed to filing and working iron or brass will be instructed in the said business gratis, and receive adequate wages for their labor. A few active boys will be taken as apprentices. A person well acquainted with forging Gun Locks will meet with encouragement. Persons having good arms for sale are desired to apply to the subscribers or to Mr. Robert Towers at the station house.

The printers of several papers both English and German, are requested to insert this advertisement in their papers.

Philadelphia. The best price and ready money is given for Clean Rags, by the printer of the Pennsylvania Evening Post.

April 14, 1776 Hessians and Hanoverians to sail for Canada from England

London. Sixty sail with twenty seven commissioners and twelve thousand Hessians, and General Burgoyne with four thousand Hanoverians are reported soon to sail for Quebec.

Biddle retakes captured schooner

New York. The American Captain Biddle retook a schooner taken by the British man of war Scarborough.

Gen. Gates declares navigation between N.Y. and N.J. is now safe

New York. Whereas the British man of war Asia has quit her station and left the harbor; this makes navigation between this and New Jersey, by the Kills, quite safe. The troops upon Staten Island and Bergen Neck, are to let all boats coming to New York or returning to Jersey, to pass and repass without molestation.

Given by Horatio Gates
Adjutant General

April 15, 1776 Captured American sloop is retaken

Boston. A sloop of about 90 tons laden with sugar, molasses, cocoa etc. was retaken by a number of boats in Frenchmens Bay(Maine) and safely taken care of. She belonged to Mr. John Brown of Providence, and was commanded by Captain Treadwell, who had been at New London, and unloaded her dry goods, but in going to Providence was taken by the British man of war Rose's tender, who sent her for Halifax, but meeting with contrary winds, put into Frenchmans Bay where she was retaken. Three or four sailors, three marines and a midshipman were taken prisoner.

HMS Glasgow's casualties are learned

Newport, Rhode Island. A person retaken in one of our vessels says that in the British man of war Glasgow's arrival at Newport after the late engagement, an officer on board the sloop hailed her and inquired what loss she had met with, when he was informed that between thirty and forty of her hands were killed and wounded.

British doctors reported to have poisoned medicines left behind

Boston. It is absolutely fact(according to the New England Chronicle) that the doctors of the diabolical ministerial butchers when they evacuated Boston intermixed and left twenty six weight of arsenick with the medicine which they left in the alms house.

April 16, 1776 British troops reported lost in transatlantic crossing

Boston. A packet arrived from England, with accounts that about three regiments were lost on their passage to America, and twenty thousand more troops expected there in the spring. The design was to make the strongest efforts at Quebec and New York--and to cut off communication between the colonies.

Briton persuades Antiguans to stop mistreating Americans

Antigua. The spirit of persecution of Americans here has subsided since the arrival here of the British Mr. Burk from the provincial camp at Cambridge. Mr. Burk has done great justice to General Washington and his officers, reporting the genteel treatment he received while a prisoner, and in return has exerted his utmost to discharge Americans detained here. He has been very successful.

April 17, 1776 Patriots are determined to defend Lewes Town

Delaware. Lewes Town is made up of officers and soldiers and the people are determined to defend this little place. There are no Tories. The Roebuck remains in our road all alone and has lost her tender. We have men on guard night and day at the lighthouse, Arnold's and the creek's mouth. They have made application to fish on our beach but we will not let them, and asked them to go to Newfoundland for that purpose. If they fish here we shall show them Yankee play as we did on Easter Sunday when we unloaded Captain Field.

Estate for sale in New Jersey

Philadelphia. For sale, a neat elegant house lately built, with a small farm, consisting of arable, meadow and wood land, situate in New Jersey twenty miles from Philadelphia, and six from the river Delaware, in a healthy and pleasant situation. A view of the estate sufficiently recommends it. Will be sold reasonable as owner intends for England.

Congress appoints Manley to be Captain in Navy.

Philadelphia. John Manley, Massachusetts privateer, was commissioned a Captain in the Continental navy.

April 18, 1776 New England troops behave properly in New York

New York. A considerable number of troops have arrived here from New England. As great numbers of the inhabitants have moved into the country, many of their houses are taken up for the soldiers. The behavior of the New England soldiers is decent, and their civility to the inhabitants very commendable. They attend prayers, with their Chaplain, evening and morning regularly, in which their officers set the example. On Lord's Day they attend public worship twice, and their deportment in the house of God is such as becomes the place.

Though the season is so far advanced, yet the great number of troops that have lately arrived, and the uncommon severity of the weather, have occasioned such a demand for fuel that oak wood sells for thirty shillings per cord, and nut for forty.

Military manual is published

Philadelphia. Just printed, published and to be sold by R. Aitken, printed with new type, on a good paper, in a one octave volume.

A New System of Military Discipline Founded on Principle. By a general officer.

Partial contents: Dress, of clothing, of convenience, of appearance, of arms, of the bayonet, of the firelock, of accoutrements.

The duty of the corporal, of the passing salute of the standing salute, to stand, to march, to balance the body, to ground the foot, to preserve equality of pace.

Duty of the sergeant.

Duty and instructions of the adjutant. The method of performing the different kinds of parapet and rejoicing fires. Of the column. Of passing a bridge.

Of the square.

Rules, maxims, and observations, for the government, conduct and discipline of an army.

All sciences have their peculiar graduates, as well to instruct pupils in their rudiments, as to bring them the higher elements of their profession; our author has therefore allotted to the corporal, to the sergeant, and to the adjutant, their different degrees of instruction, that each may be responsible for those committed to his charge, and by that means that the exercise may be more correct and expediently learned. He then introduces the whole exercise complete, as it is to be performed by word of command from the major, or any other commissioned officer, or by signal, in that part where our author treats of the field exercises, he comprehends such operations as are necessary to be performed against the enemy, as different exigencies may there require. In treating of the column, the line, and the square, this author points out their various uses and purposes, shows some of their capital defects and purposes, and proposes several amendments. The whole is concluded with an appendix containing rules, maxims, and observations for the government, conduct, and discipline of the army.

This work is written upon a new plane, and is pecularly

adapted for the use of young officers, showing the particular duties of each, and the most easy method of training their men in order to become expert soldiers.

New American naval ships arrive at Newport

Newport, Rhode Island. The Continental ships Alfred, and Columbus, and the brig, arrived in our bay, and anchored near a station occupied by British pirates a considerable part of the winter.

April 19, 1776 Some reasons for Independence are published

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Evening Post publishes some reasons for a Declaration of Independence of the American Colonies.

The colonies will be delivered from two governments directly opposed to each other. The colonies will also be delivered from the disorder, aside from the unlimited, undescribed, and sometimes arbitrary powers of conventions, committees of safety, and committees of inspection. A criminal correspondence with the enemies of this country will be prevented or punished under the article of high treason. The colonies will be delivered from the danger of Crown officers whose apparent interest it will always be to remain inactive, or to cooperate with the enemies of America.

The British constitution may be immediately restored to each colony, with the great and necessary improvements of a Governor and Council chosen by the people. France will immediately attack Britain in the most defenseless parts of her empire, and thus draw off her fleets and armies from our coast. All the powers of Europe will conceive such ideas of our union, love of freedom, and military resource that they will not be tempted to accept of a share in us upon the condition of conquering us.

Interesting assortment of goods for sale

Philadelphia. Some of the goods for sale in Joseph Stansbury's store are: Blue and white and rich enamelled bowls from an half pint to two gallons and a half. Blue and white artichoke cups and spitting pots. Blue and white oval baking dishes and patty pins. Blue and white butter tubs and

mustard pots. Rich cut candlesticks, three sizes and several patterns. Rich cut sugar dishes, jelly glasses and essence bottles. Two quart decanters, for madeira. Hyacinth glasses and sleek stones for silk stockings. Cyder glasses, proof bottles and wine glasses. Inkpots, Egyptian, Etruscan embossed red china earthenware, Queens ware, coffee pots of the urn shape. Delf bowls, ewers and basins, chamberpots, plates and dishes of several sizes. Looking glasses, snuff boxes, earrings, tea tongs, seals and gems, Japanned cabinet and dressing boxes. Alembicks, boltheads, marble and glass mortars with pestles, funnels, nipped shells, and specie bottles, ointment syrup and pillpots.

Refugee Tories from Boston are unhappy in Halifax

Marblehead, Massachusetts. A vessel arrived from Halifax, with some refugee Tories. The information from them is that they had their choice of enlisting as soldiers, or to starve, or return to this colony. Their choice was the latter and they are now begging for mercy. What is their fate is not known.

Harvard gives Washington honorary degree

Cambridge, Mass. The Corporation of Harvard College in Cambridge in New Englandbestowed upon Gen. George Washington an Honorary Degree as Doctor of Laws, the Law of Nature and Nations and the Civil Law, and have given to him at the same time all rights, privileges and honors to the said degree pertaining.

April 20, 1776 Clinton's party defeated at Battery Island

North Carolina. The British General Clinton and his troops are landed at Battery Island, since which a party of them have been defeated and one Captain Collet killed, who had been very active against the inhabitants and had treated them with great barbarity.

Hms Phoenix and Savage are now in New York waters

New York. The British men of war Phoenix and Savage have joined Wallace's fleet near Long Island.

American whale boats help sloops land safely

Boston. Three large sloops, loaded with wood etc., from the eastward, bound into this harbor were becalmed at Pudding Point Gut, or Deer Island. It being high water, the inhabitants were afraid they would be taken by the King's ship, laying below. Major Frazer, with a party of our troops, went down to their assistance in whale boats and two small armed schooners, and brought the sloops all safe up to town about 12 o'clock at night. A few random shot were fired at them from the man of war, which did no damage.

Washington is on secret expedition in Long Island

New York.

His Excellency, the General (Washington) set out for Suffolk with a few aids, and has marched from there at the head of a large body of troops upon some secret expedition.

April 21, 1776

Hard gale harasses British fleet

New York. A letter from St. Eustatia says a vessel arrived here from Whitehaven, that spoke with Sir Peter Parker, who came out with a British fleet of fifty five sail, bound for America. He had only with him at that time fourteen sail, having parted with the rest in a hard gale of wind.

British watering party taken prisoner in New York

New York. As a number of sailors and marines belonging to the English ships on the New York station were getting water on the west end of Long Island, a party of Continental troops came upon them and took 35 prisoners.

April 22, 1776 Boston harbor is fortified

Boston. Continental forces are fortifying and putting the harbor on the best position of defense they can. They talk of sinking hulks by the castle, and erecting a battery at Camp Hill on Noddles Island. Our small privateers run in and out by Pullings Point, without any regard to the enemy.

Four ships taken by Dunmore, but Two are retaken

Williamsburg The ministerial vessels under the British Governor Dunmore took four of our vessels. However, the wind was against them. Twenty three men headed by the brave young man Benjamin Bonner of Pamptico River in four whaleboats retook two prizes and many prisoners.

Runaway Negroes are captured on Long Island

New York. Thirteen runaway Negroes, and a couple of Tories were brought up from Suffolk, and lodged in the public jail, and there is advice that Lieutenant Colonel Eppes had taken 14 soldiers of the Black Fusiliers, and killed two gre[illegible]adiers of the fourteenth regiment.

April 23, 1776 Two Negro deserters sentenced to death.

Jamestown, Virginia. Two Negroes who mistook one of our armed vessels for a tender and expressed their inclination to serve the British Lord Dunmore, are under sentence of death as examples.

Enemy Canadians take Point Levi, in second try

Quebec. Priests, Scotsmen, and others found means to erect the King's standard twenty miles from Point Levi, where they had collected about five hundred Canadians, but a party of one hundred men under our Lieutenant Hughes, and two hundred Canada militia were gone to route them.

HMS Viper transports British troops to Quebec

Halifax. Saturday last sailed the Viper, British sloop of war, for Quebec with a number of transports and troops. Sunday arrived here in Halifax the Scarborough from the Savannah in Georgia, in whom came Governor Wright of that province.

Committee of Charlotte, N.C. casts off allegiance to Crown

Charlotte, North Carolina. Resolved at the Committee of Charlotte County that the delegates to the convention should know the sentiments of their constituency. When we consider the despotic plan adopted by the King, ministry and parliament of Great Britain, insidiously pursued for these twelve years past to enslave America, when we consider they have turned a deaf ear to the repeated remonstrances of this and our sister colonies, and that they have been equally inattentive to the rights of freedom and the British constitution, and when we consider that

they have for some time been endeavoring to enforce their arbitrary mandates by fire and sword, and likewise encouraging by every means in their power our savage neighbors and our more savage domestics, to spill the blood of our wives and children--we see they intend nothing for us but abject slavery.

Despairing of any redress, and all hopes of reconciliation between her and the United Colonies now being at an end, and being conscious that their treatment was such as loyal subjects did not deserve, and to which as freemen, we are determined not to submit--we advise you cheerfully to concur and give your best assistance in our Convention to push to the utmost a war of offense and defense until such proposals of peace are made to our general Congress as shall be judged by them just and friendly. And for the benefit of trade as well--we cast off any allegiance to the King and tyrant. God in heaven is our King and with his assistance they can plan a government which will secure our civil and religious rights and privileges to the latest posterity.

April 24, 1776

Enemy detachment is surrounded

New York. Seventy men who went ashore from the British men of war at the Hook, to get water, were attacked by our people. They fled into the lighthouse where they are surrounded.

Wooster determined to seal off Quebec

Quebec. General Wooster has come here and apparently said that he would seal the walls of this place if there was space sufficient between them and the heavens.

Reward for lost flute

Philadelphia. One dollar reward offered in the Pennsylvania Journal for any person who will bring to the printer a German flute with a white leather case over it, lost Tuesday night last.

April 25, 1776

Gunpowder and munitions arrive

Newburyport, Massachusetts. Captain Wilson has arrived from France loaded with gunpowder, sulphur, and guns.

Beer for sale

Philadelphia. Advertisement in the Pennsylvania Evening Post--Spruce beer made in Chestnut Street. Cags as small as five gallons are sent to any part of the city and six pense per gallon. Bottled three shillings a dozen, bottles returned. At the same place may be had Hare's American best bottled Porter, Philadelphia bottled beer and cyder by the gross or dozen. None will be sent out but what is exceeding fine.

April 26, 1776 British brig chases American vessels

Newport, Rhode Island. A large black brig, possibly the British Scarborough or Cerberus, was standing off and without the entrance of this harbor, close in to the light house. She chased two American brigs and three sloops but they got clear and went in on the east side of the island.

Fortification of New London is planned

New London. This town is to be fortified in a manner similar to Boston, it being considered as a good and convenient rendezvous for the Continental fleet.

April 27, 1776

British seize American ships at sea

Williamsburg. There have within the past two weeks been taken and brought into Norfolk, the sloop Congress, gunpowder, cloth, linens, a schooner, medicines, and jesuits bark, a new ship from Baltimore, flour and bread wheat, this last taken by old Goodrich, who commands a privateer fitted out by himself and has fitted out two others, one commanded by his son. A brig outward bound, provisions. A New England schooner, three vessels of gunpowder, five thousand arms, another New Englandman bound for Baltimore with cheese, cider, potatoes, chestnuts. An unarmed brig was despatched a month ago for Lisbon for a cargo of fruit and wines for Lord Dunmore's use. Keep a look out, boys, for this vessel. Punch is a most agreeable and enlivening beverage in hot summer weather, and our good housewives want plums, to trim up many a dainty dish for this festive season.

South Carolina supports Congress

Philadelphia. South Carolina has resolved not to enter into any treaty or correspondence with Britain but through the Continental Congress.

April 28, 1776 West Indies reported in need of provisions

Boston. Captain Barker coming onto Bedford from the West Indies ran from two large ships, making his escape at night. He says the islands are in great want of provisions, and are planting most of their cane land with potatoes etc. And the British transports blown off the coast last winter were about to sail for Boston when he left.

~~The Continental ships Alfred, and Columbus arrived in Newport Bay near Hope, a station occupied by British pirates~~ a ~~considerable part of the winter.~~ Stet

April 29, 1776 New England schooner escapes seizure by British privateer /

Williamsburg. An enemy tender chased a New England schooner outward bound, into Hobb's Hole, from whence she carried her off as low down the river as Bowler's ware house, where she got aground, on an oyster bank, and stuck there till the Tuesday following, by which time some spirited gentlemen in the neighborhood got together four sailing boats, and manned them, with a view to retake the prize, and if possible to board the tender, which was commanded by one of old Goodrich's sons, and had on board a large quantity of sail canvas. As soon as the tender's people saw our vessels bearing down upon them, they set fire to the prize, and quitted her, upon which some small boats from the shore put off, and arrived in time enough to extinguish the fire without its materially damaging the vessel, having only one or two of her sails burned. Mr. Hugh Walker and Mr. Richard Banks, who commanded two of the vessels got quickly up the tender and engaged her at close quarters, for the least fifteen or twenty minutes, with small arms, during which a valuable Negro man, a pilot on Walker's vessel, was shot through the head attempting to board, and three or four of the tender's people were seen to sail, when a breeze springing up Mr. Goodrich ran off leaving his prize behind, which is now secured.

April 30, 1776 **Captain Tucker takes two valuable prizes**

Boston. Two brigs were seen standing for this harbor on which Captain Tucker in the privateer, late commanded by Captain Manly, then off in the Bay, gave them chase and following them near up to the lighthouse, very fortunately took them both, in sight of two or three of the British ships of war lying in King Road. Captain Dawson, in one of the enemies' armed vessels, came to sail, and endeavored to get out to the assistance of the brigs, but was prevented by the winds being easterly. The two prizes accompanied by the privateer, were the same day safely carried into Lynn, and properly secured. The largest is from Cork, James Fulton master, upwards of one hundred and thirty tons burthen, and has on board fifty tons of coal, 250 whole barrels and 130 half barrels of beef, also butter, candles, 200 bowes of flour, barley, hams, soap etc.

The other is from St. Michaels, Richard Pine master, loaded with wine and fruit. The masters of these vessels, not knowing the British army had evacuated this place, were bound hither to dispose of their cargoes.

Southerners reported strongly in favor of independence

Petersburg, Virginia. The celebrated Dr. Thomas Young, late of Boston, who was recently appointed surgeon of the rifle battalion of this city and county writes: On my way through Virginia I found the inhabitants warm for independence. I spent last evening with a gentleman from South Carolina, who tells me that the people there have no expectation of ever being reconciled with britain again, but only as a foreign state. They have formed a government of their own. John Rutledge is appointed president. From North Carolina I have

received letters since their convention met; I find they are for independence, as they intend to repeal the instructions that were given to their delegates and to leave them at liberty to vote upon every occasion as they think best. I assure you that the vehemence of the southern colonies will require all the coolness of the northern ones to moderate their zeal.

American troops shifting locales

New York. General Thompson's brigade arrived here last Tuesday. General Sullivan's brigade is on its way from Poughkeepsie to Albany.

May 1, 1776

Enemy transports land near Cape Fear

North Carolina. ~~New York.~~ Seventeen sail of transports from Ireland, with seven regiments consisting of about five thousand men, arrived at Long Bay, near Cape Fear. They are in great need of water.

Washington visits Cambridge after inspection tour

Cambridge. His Excellency, General Washington, attended by his aides de camp, and secretary, with Adjutant General Bullit, returned to headquarters in Cambridge, having visited Portsmouth, the Great Bridge, and Kemps' Landing, and we hear that several effective regulations for crushing the Tory interest in that quarter has taken place. The town of Portsmouth has suffered in no other respect than of demolishing the lodgings of three noted persons and seizing a quantity of stores, the property of Tories.

Phila. library considers moving books for safety

Philadelphia. The members of the Library Company are requested to attend at the Library Room on Thursday the 30 of May in order to consider the propriety of impowering the Directors to remove their books and effects of the company and determine the place where the same shall be deposited in case any future event should render that measure necessary.

May 2, 1776 No opposition given our troops entering Norfolk

Norfolk. Our troops entered the town without opposition, and have taken a number of wagon loads of effects from the Tories. John Goodrich's house is destroyed.

Lord Dunmore is very strongly entrenched at Tucker's Mills, and has a great quantity of cannon mounted, defended by about five hundred men.

Americam gondolas attack HMS Roebuck

Delaware Bay. The British Roebuck man of war of 44 guns, and the Liverpool Frigate(44 and 28 guns) arrived near the mouth of Christine Creek for the purpose of procuring a supply of fresh water. Orders were given to attack them, so yesterday our boats (gondolas) began a very severe cannonading on the ships, which was returned with equal warmth by them. The action lasted about four hours, without much damage on either side. During the engagement, Captain Alexander on board The Wasp schooner, of six guns, came out of the Christine Creek, into which he had been chased the day before by the men of war, and retook a brig which had been taken by the Liverpool. On Thursday afternoon the gondolas renewed their attack upon the ships with so much spirit and skill, that they were obliged to hoist sail and return down the river. The gondolas pursued them under a constant fire for hours, after which they quit the chase, and moored at New Castle. Numbers of balls were heard to strike the ship in their action and discoveries were made the next day of considerable damage being done to them.

Several of the gondolas were slightly damaged, one man killed in the first and three wounded in the second fight. The novelty of the fight, the gallant behavior of the officers and sailors, and the important consequences of the contest, afforded a most interesting spectacle to many thousand spectators who watched from the shores. By the best accounts, too much praise cannot be given the officers and men on board the gondolas, who behaved with greatest courage and prudence. The engagement sufficiently established the Row-Gallies as being the best mode of defense practicable in a river, especially if we consider that although the whole thirteen were employed, yet not more than one half can be said to have been engaged at any one time and this circumstance, though it shows a want of judgement somewhere, in stationing them properly and at proper distances, is at the same time an additional argument in favor of the real service of the boats. The proper distance to engage at is now known, which is the nearest distance you can approach a ship with out coming within the range of grapeshot, and beyond that is a waste of powder. But if it is necessary to approach closer than that, in that case the nearer you are, so as to be out of reach of the musketry, is the best shot both for safety and service, because grape shot like small shot does the most execution at the greatest killing distance, and the least execution at the least distance.

(Gondolas: flat-bottomed, gun-carrying, small boats)

The Pennsylvania Evening Post has published these letters to London giving an English officer's version of the evacuation of Boston--

March3--

For the last six weeks or near two months, we have been better amused than could possibly be expected in our situation. We had a theater, we had balls, and there is actually a subscription on fort for a masquerade. England seems to have forgot us, and we endeavored to forget ourselves. But we were roused to a sense of our situation last night in a manner unpleasant enough. The rebels have been for some time past erecting a bomb battery, and last night began to play upon us. Two shells fell not far from us. One fell upon Colonel Monckton's house, and broke all the windows, but luckily did not burst till it had crossed the street. Many houses were damaged, but no lives lost. We expect some carcases tonight, if the fear of destroying their own property does not prevent it. What makes this matter more provoking is that their barracks are so scattered, and at such a distance, that we cannot disturb them, although from a battery near the waterside they can reach us easily.

March 4--

Bad news from New York this morning. An American who calls himself Lord Sterling(I believe one of his family has a right to the title, but passed eldest and this gentleman plays alone) he put himself at the head of three thousand men, in conjunction with that arch rebel (Lee) and has driven all the well effected

people from the town of New York. If something is not speedily done, his Britannic Majesty's American dominions will probably be confined within a very narrow compass. The rebel army is not brave, I believe, but it is agreed on all hands that their artillery officers are at least equal to our own. In the number of shells that they flung last night, not above three failed. This morning we flung four, and three of them burst in the air.

March 5--

This is, I believe, likely to prove as important a day to the British Empire as any in our annals. We underwent last night a very serious cannonade, which damaged a number of houses, and killed some men. This morning at daybreak we discovered two redoubts on the hills to Dorchester Point, and two smaller works on their flanks. They were all raised during the night, with an expedition equal to that of the Genii belonging to Aladdins's wonderful lamp. From these hills they commanded the whole town, so that we must drive them from their post, or desert the place. The former is determined upon, and five regiments are already embarked. A body of light infantry under the command of Major Musgrave, an excellent officer and a body of grenadiers, are to embark tonight at seven. I think it is likely to be so far a general affair, that we shall take our share in it. Adieu balls, masquerades, etc. for now may be looked upon as the opening of the campaign.

It is worthwhile to remark with what judgement the leaders of the rebels take advantage of the prejudices and

work upon the passions of the mob. The 5th of March is the anniversary of what they call the Bloody Massacre, when, I think, in 1769, the King's troops fired on the people in the streets of Boston. If ever they dare stand us, it will be today, but I hope tomorrow to be able to give you account of their defeat.

March 6--

A wind more violent than any thing I ever heard prevented our last night's purposed expedition, and so saved the lives of thousands. Today they have made themselves too strong to make a dislodgement possible. We are under their fire whenever they choose to begin, so that we are now evacuating the town with the most expedition, and leaving behind us half our worldly goods. Adieu, I hope to embark in a few hours.

March 7--

When the transports came to be examined, they were void of both provisions and forage. If any are got on board today, it will be as much as can be done. Never were troops in so disgraceful a situation, and that not in the least our own faults, or owing to any want of skill nor discretion in our commanders, but entirely owing to Great Britain being fast asleep. I pity General Howe, from my soul.

Transport, March 9--

I have slept one night on board. The troops are embarking as fast as possible. I mistook when I imagined the works already made could destroy the town; but the rebels possess a hill so situated that if they pleased to erect a battery, it would entirely consume us. They, as yet have not

yet. Nothing to eat, less to drink. Bad times. The displeasure I feel from the very small share I have in our present insignifancey is so great, that I do not know the thing so desperate I would not undertake in order to change our situation.

France gives colonies major support

Paris France. King Louis XVI has consigned one million dollars worth of munitions to the Americans.

May 3, 1776

~~Providence, Rhode Island. The Continental ships Alfred and Columbus, and the brig Cabot, are arrived in Providence River from New London.~~

Two s oldiers pardoned from death penalty

Newburyport, Massachusetts. General Ward, Commander in Chief of the Continental forces stationed here, has been pleased to grant pardons to two soldiers convicted of mutiny and sentenced to suffer death.

British men of war change sea stations

New York. Sailed from Sandy Hook, supposed for Halifax, His Majesty's sloop of war Nautilus, and six other vessels. The Phoenix and Duchess of Gordon are at the Hook, and the Asia lies between the Banks, about eight miles from the Narrows.

A London newspaper's version of Boston evacuation

London. The London Gazette, Whitehall, reports that General Howe, commander in chief of his British Majesty's forces in North America, having taken a resolution on the seventh of March, to remove from Boston to Halifax, with the troops under his command, and such of the inhabitants with their effects as were desirous to continue under the protection of his Majesty's forces, the embarkation was effected in the 17th of that month, with the greatest order and regularity, without the least interruption from the rebels. When the packet came away, the first division of the transports was under sail, and the remainder were preparing to follow in a few days, the admiral leaving behind as many of the ships of war as he could be spared from the enemy, for the security and protection of such vessels as might be bound to Boston.

May 4, 1776

More Tories are captured in New York

New York. Captain Harding in the brig Defense, had the happiness of taking a number of Tories who were crossing over to Long Island. One of which wore a white hat and a blue silk jacket, in exchange for which it is hoped they will be given a coat of mail, that is one of lime and stone.

A number of letters were found on them, it is said, giving an account of their diabolical schemes, together with names of several of their associates. In consequence of which a number of gentlemen resolved to break up the den, and set off towards Ridgefield, among whom was that bold asserter of his country's cause, Major Simon, who almost lost his life in reporting too much confidence in one of the villains.

It seems he was very active in taking one who after he surrendered invited him in, where he had men concealed who fell on the Major, but some of his friends came to his assistance in time. The major is much wounded in the head but still had resolution to go on and quell the others. (The Tory attackers name was Lyons.)

Our Canadian forces succeed in skirmish at Quebec

New York. Letters from General Sullivan and Schuyler mention that our people had possessed and destroyed part of the lower town of Quebec, and made a breach in the walls of the upper town.

Another colony declares its independence

Newport,R.I. Rhode Island today declared its independence from Great Britain.

May 5, 1776 Clinton offers to pardon offending patriots

Cape Fear, North Carolina. A proclamation was issued by Major General Clinton, Commander of His Majesty's force in the southern provinces of North America--

Whereas the most unprovoked and wicked rebellion hath for some time past prevailed, and doth now exist within his Majesty's province of North Carolina, and the inhabitants (forgetting their allegiance to their sovereign, and denying the authority of the laws and statutes of the realm) have in a succession of crimes, proceeded to the royal subversion of all lawful authority, usurping the powers of government and erecting a tyranny in the hands of the Congresses and Committees of various denominations, utterly unknown and repugnant spirit of the British constitution, and divers people, in avowed defiance to all legal authority, are now actually in arms, waging unnatural war against their king, and whereas all attempts to reclaim the infatuated and misguided multitude to a sense of their error have unhappily proved ineffectual, I have it in command to proceed forthwith against all such congresses and committees thus unlawfully established, as against open enemies to the state. But, considering it as a duty inseparable from the principle of humanity first of all to forewarn the deluded people, I do earnestly entreat and exhort them, as they tender their own happiness and that of their posterity, to appease the vengeance of an injured and justly incensed nation, by a return of their duty to our common sovereign, and to the blessings of a free government, as established by law, hereby offering, in his Majesty's

name, free pardon to all such as shall lay down their arms and submit to the laws, excepting only from the bench of such pardon Cornelius Harnett and Robert Howe. And I do hereby require that the Provincial Congress, and all Committees of Safety and other unlawful associations, be dissolved, and the judges allowed to hold their courts according to the laws and constitutions of this province, of which all the persons are required to take notice, as they will answer the contrary at their utmost peril.

Given on board the Pallas transport, in Cape Fear River, in the province of North Carolina the fifth day of May, and in the sixteenth year of his Majesty's reign.

May 6, 1776 Significant British reinforcement of Quebec

Quebec. A British fleet reached here from England, carrying ten companies of regulars and Royal Marines, the vanguard of larger forces soon to appear.

Gunpowder arrives here from France

Philadelphia. Arrived here from France 14 tons of gunpowder and 20 tons of salt petre.

May 7, 1776

Another American defeat at Quebec

Quebec. Two British men of war, two frigates, and one tender are now lying off Quebec. The enemy sailed out in the morning, numbering one thousand. Our forces were dispersed at different parts as not more than 200 could be collected at headquarters. This small force could not resist the enemy. All our cannon, five hundred muskets, and about 200 sick, unable to come off, fell into their hands. The retreat was made with the utmost precipitation and confusion. However, Colonel Campbell informs us we have lost very few men.

American privateer takes two valuable prizes

Boston. Captain Tucker of Beverly, took a snow from Ireland, laden with provisions, also a brig from Fyal, laden with wine, bound for Boston, and carried them safe into Beverly. These valuable prizes were taken in sight of the men of war, who attempted to beat out, but the wind proving unfavorable, they could not come to their assistance.

May 8, 1776

Counterfeiters are arrested

New York. Information was given to our Congress, that some men on Long Island were counterfeiting Continental money, also Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York currency. A party of minute men were ordered out the same day in search of them, and they were all taken with what cash they had struck off, likewise their press, tools etc. They were jailed.

Tories are arrested

New York. A gang of Tories on their way from Dobbs Ferry to Newtown, Connecticut, headed by Mr. Cable, was apprehended and jailed.

Congress specifies equipment for trainees

Philadelphia. All training soldiers and other male persons from sixteen years of age to sixty five, are hereby required to equip themselves and be constantly provided with a good fire arm with a steel or iron ramrod, and a spring to retain the same, a worm, prodding wire and brush, and a bayonet fixed to his gun, a scabbard and belt hereof, and a cutting sword, tomahawk or hatchet, a pouch, containing a cartridge box that will hold five rounds at least, one hundred buck shot, a jack knife, one round of powder, etc.

 Recent Quebec defeat is described in more detail

Dechambault, 48 miles above Quebec. From an officer in the army--

When I arrived within nine miles of Quebec with the six companies of our regiment, I was hailed by an officer on board of a vessel belonging to us, and informed that our whole army was retreating with the utmost precipitation, and advised to retreat with the regiment as fast as possible, which you must be well assured I could not think of doing unless absolutely obliged to it. I then immediately put to shore and ordered the regiment to wait my orders before they moved from that place. I accordingly set out, and ran for about six miles, meeting the roads full of people shamefully flying from an enemy that appeared by no means superior to our strength.

The General and officers halted here, and held a council of war, to determine whether they should stop the troops and engage the enemy. It was determined almost unanimously against the proposal, although I was of the opinion from the best accounts I received from the officer, that the British troops might have been driven back into the town. In vain was every argument of disgrace attending a retreat urged. They had determined not to make a stand til they got to the mouth of the Sorelle, but a letter coming from General Arnold, promising a reinforcement of men and cannon, they determined to wait here until an officer could return, who was sent to Montreal by General Thomas. The (British) fleet is arrived at Quebec. A frigate of thirty four guns, a ship of twenty guns

or upward and a schooner taken from us, have sailed up the river as far as this place, and remained here two days. They landed eight boatloads of men, about four miles off, who were obliged to embark by a party of the rear before a party of one hundred and fifty men, that we marched from hence could get up with them.

Volunteers are helping fortify Boston

Boston. Almost every able bodied inhabitant of this place has voluntarily engaged to work two days in a week, for six weeks on the fortifications carrying on here for the general defense. They began to fortify Noddle's Island last week, since which they have been joined by several of the neighboring towns.

Turmoil reported in London

London. There are great disturbances here amongst the people, numbers begging in the streets for a mouthful of bread, who are able to work, but can get nothing to do, and numbers rise in bodies, to prevent provisions being shipped out of the country. God knows what the consequence will be, there being twenty five sail, of transports, and several men of war, just going to Boston.

May 10, 1776 John Paul Jones given command of ship

Philadelphia. John Paul Jones was appointed to command the Providence.

Mass. resolves to support United Colonies

Watertown, Massachusetts. Resolved in the House of Representatives that if the Honorable Congress should, for the safety of the said colonies declare them independent of the Kingdom of Britain, they, the said inhabitants, will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure.

Commanders decide to retreat from Quebec position

Dechambeau, Quebec. At a council of war attended by General Thomas it was determined to retreat to the mouth of the Sorel. This day General Arnold goes down there, and if he can get information of the enemy's real strength, and it should be found inconsiderable, perhaps a council of war on reconsideration may think it proper to march the army back to Dechambeau, which is now strengthened by three regiments.

Mass. wants more equal representation

Watertown, Massachusetts. This colony today passed an act for more equal representation in the General Court. The colony shall receive representation according to the number of the people in each township.

A cryptic anecdote

Newburyport, Massachusetts. The Essex Journal reports the following anecdote is absolutely fact. A few days before the

battle of Lexington, 4 or 5 regular British officers passing through this town and meeting with one of its honest inhabitants, being a yeoman, asked him whether there were any cannon in town and where they were. The honest yeoman replied, yes, they were up Dirty Green Lane, where John Cooksoon lives, near where Uncle Bezaleel lost his lion barr. The officers said 'god dam you' and left him.

May 11, 1776

Reinforcements are ordered to assist N. Carolina

Williamsburg, Virginia. Twelve hundred men from the colony are ordered for North Carolina, to reinforce the troops collected at Cape Fear to oppose General Clinton. It is not certain what number of ministerial troops are arrived.

Waters takes another prize vessel

Boston. The American privateer Captain Waters took a British brig and carried her into Beverly.

Ellery succeeds Ward in Congress

Providence. William Ellery, Esq. is chosen a delegate for this colony, to attend the ~~Connecticut~~ Continental Congress in the place of the Honorable Sam Ward, deceased.

Britain's plans are revealed here

May 12, 1776

Philadelphia. We learn by extracts from the St. James Chronicle, London, dated 19 March, inserted in the Halifax Gazette, that General Burgoyne was to sail for Quebec with one thousand troops, and retake it if in the hands of the rebels, and then proceed to Montreal, St. Johns etc. That also General Gage and Lord Howe with seven thousand troops were to join General Howe at Boston, at which place it is supposed there is eight thousand. Gage to remain as Governor of Massachusetts while the Generals Howes are to attack and beat the rebels from their posts. They are then to secure their embarkation and proceed to New York, land there and occupy Hudsons river and proceed up and join General Burgoyne from Quebec, and establish a chain of forts round New England. Also that one hundred sail of frigates and sloops of war are to line our coasts, it is said three deep, to cut off all communication between the colonies. That the above troops are to be Hessians, who enter into pay before they march, and Hanoverians and British. The foreign states are subsidized for two years after the troops shall be returned to their own land again, if ever that should be.

HMS Cerberus harasees shipping in R.I.

Newport. The British frigate Cerberus watered at Block Island and chased some fishing boats into Newport. The brig that was consort with the Cerberus is said to be sailed for Halifax with three prizes, some of them said to be from France.

~~absolving the inhabitants of that colony from their allegiance to Great Britain.~~

A new American frigate is launched

Providence. The Continental ship Warren, of thirty two guns, esteemed a very fine vessel was launched here today.

Indian attitudes in South are mixed

Savannah. Extract of a letter--

All the Creek Chiefs that were expected are down, and seem well disposed. I hope we shall be able to keep them quiet. I have seen letters from the Cherokees as late as the seventh instant. The middle and lower towns seem to remember the good talks at Fort Charlotte, and say that if the Overhills are for mischief with the white people, the great ridge of mountains shall divide them, for they will have no hand in it. Henry Stewart, Captains Colbert and Gitt are in the Overhills, they came up the Mississippi from the Chicasaw Landing with a large supply of ammunition, were attacked in the way by the northward Indians, who killed three or four and took or destroyed a part of the powder.

May 13, 1776 Ships for the new American Navy are named

Watertown, Massachusetts. The General Assembly have ordered five of the armed vessels now fitting out by this colony for the defense of America, to bear the following names, the brig at Kingston to be called the Independence, a brig building at Dartmouth to be called the Rising Empire, sloop at Salisbury, the Tyrannacide, two sloops at Swanzey, the Republic and the Freedom.

Washington comes to Philadelphia

Philadelphia. His Excellency General Washington arrived here today from New York.

Virginia votes for independence

Williamsburg, Virginia. In convention--

In this state of common danger we have no alternative left but an abject submission to the will of those overbearing tyrants, or a total separation from the Crown and government of Great Britain.

It is resolved unanimously that the delegates appointed to represent this colony in General Congress be instructed to propose to Declare the United Colonies Free and Independent States.

Resolved unanimously that a Declaration of Rights and such a plan of government as will be most likely to maintain peace and order in this colony, and secure substantial and equal liberty to the people.

Edmund Pendleton. President

Providence. The Rhode Island Assembly have passed an act

May 14, 1776

Ceremony in Williamsburg toasts independence

Williamsburg, Virginia. In consequence of yesterday's resolution universally regarded as the only door which will lead to safety and prosperity, some gentlemen made a handsome collection for the purpose of treating the soldiery, who were paraded in Waller's Grove, before Brigadier General Lewis, attended by the gentlemen of the committee of safety, the members of the General Convention, the inhabitants of this city etc. The resolution being read aloud to the army, the following toasts were given, each of them accompanied by a discharge of the artillery and small arms, and the acclamation of all present.

1. The American Independent States.
2. The grand Congress of the United States, and their respective legislatures.
3. General Washington, and victory to the American arms.

The Union Flag of the American States waved upon the capitol during the whole of this ceremony, which being ended, the soldiers partook of the refreshments prepared to them by the affection of their countrymen, and the evening concluded with illuminations, and other demonstrances of joy, every one seeming pleased that the domination of Great Britain was now at an end, so wickedly and tryannically exercised for those twelve or thirteen years past, notwithstanding our repeated prayers and remontrances for redress.

Our troop will make their grand stand at Sorel in Canada

New York. A letter arrived from our camp at the mouth of the Sorel--

We have here Generals Wooster, Arnold, the Prussian general, and about fifteen hundred good troops. Two battalions are just arrived from Cambridge, and one gone to Montreal. Colonel Poor and his battalion are expected every minute, with General Thompson. Here is to be our grand stand. We are now fortifying but the main body is not yet come up from Dechambeau. There are six battalions more on their way to this place. This fortification is at the mouth of the Sorel on the river St. Lawrence, where our provisions and stores came down into Canada. As soon as the six battalions arrive, I hope we shall be able to drive them faster than they drove us.

Book about military diseases is published

Philadelphia. Just printed and selling by R. Bell--

The Diseases incident to Armies, with Method of Cure, translated from the original of Baron von Swieten, physician to their Imperial Majesties. To which are added the Nature and Treatment of gun shot wounds, by John Ranby, Esq., Surgeon General to the British army. Likewise directions to be observed by sea surgeons in engagements. Also preventatives for scurvy at sea, by William Northcote, surgeon many years in the sea service. With rules for preserving health in warm and cold climates, by Doctor Lind, published for the use of military and naval surgeons.

It is presumed that whatever contributeth to promote the health and happiness of such valuable lives as those of the American soldiers and sailors, should meet with a generous

reception, not only from those who are immediately engaged in the pecuniary superintendment of their welfare but also from all friends to liberty and humanity, who are in opulent circumstances, and especially from all the capital land and sea officers, as well as the very large number of privates, whose personal safety from diseases is so dependent on the knowledge and abilities of their physicians.

Fire-fighting procedures are questioned

Philadelphia. This querie appeared in the Pennsylvania Evening Post--

Would it be advisable to keep the fire rafts at a greater distance from each other for fear of accidents. Also to keep separate combustible matters, tar pitch, turpentine, rosin, gunpowder, sulphur etc. Would it not be well to collect all spare cannon into one common magazine or place of safety, and protect with a good strong guard. Probably it would be much cheaper than clearing the spikes out, and running the hazard of a disappointment. Would it not be of use in case of fire for everyone who had sufficient yard room and could afford to have a cistern to collect a large quantity of rain water. It would be of advantage in the above case and also answer for washing or bathing.

Whether it would be amiss to keep all the engines partly full of water, especially in the summer months. In case of emergency they might be played off, and refreshed once in the days or fortnight, to cool the houses. Why not cover the roofs with wet blankets where it can be done conveniently.

Philadelphia. The delegates from Virginia to the Continental Congress were authorized by their Convention to vote in favor of a general American declaration of independence.

Lead is urgently needed

Philadelphia. The Council of Safety requests the donation of lead to the cause by citizens.

May 16, 1776

Fast day is declared

Philadelphia. Tomorrow is appointed by the Honorable Continental Congress as a day of fasting and prayer throughout the Continent.

Editorial discusses forms of government

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Journal publishes serious questions proposed to all friends to the rights of mankind in Pennsylvania with suitable answers.

Q. What is government?

A. Certain powers vested by society in public persons for the security, peace, and happiness of its members.

Q. What ought a society to do to secure a good government?

A. Anything. The happiness of man, as an inhabitant of this world, depends entirely upon it.

Q. When ought a new government to be established?

A. When the old becomes impracticable, or dangerous to the rights of the people.

Q. Is that the present state of our government?

A. Every officer of it is bound by oaths of allegiance and fidelity to our enemies. The chief magistrate is wholly independent of the people both in fortune and authority. The use of our constitution is impracticable in many instances, and dangerous to all, therefore necessity says it ought to be laid aside.

Q. Who ought to form a new constitution of government?

A. The people.

Q. From whom ought public persons to derive their authority to govern?

A. From the people whom they are to govern.

Q. What ought to be the object of government?

A. The welfare of the governed.

Q. How is such a government to be obtained?

A. By forming a constitution which regards men more than things, by framing it in such a manner that the interest of the governors and the governed shall ever be the same, and by delegating the powers of government so that the people may always have it in their power to resume them, when abused, without tumult or confusion, and to deliver them persons more worthy of trust.

Q. Who ought to have such a trust conferred upon them, as it is the highest and most important which man can delegate?

A. First, men of great wisdom and integrity who have as much if not more natural than acquired sense and understanding. Secondly, men who can be under no temptations to frame political distinctions in favor of any class or set of men. Thirdly, men who the moment the constitution is framed, must descend into the common paths of life, and have as great a chance to feel every defect in the constitution as any man. And lastly, men who regard not the person of the rich, nor despite the state of the poor, but who prefer justice and equity to all things, and

would go to any lengths to establish the common rights of mankind on the firmest foundation.

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Ledger received a letter from a correspondent in Montreal--

We remained at Dechambeault for four or five days on a very short allowance, and left it with half an allowance of flour, and no pork to serve the men to Trois Rivieres, two good days march. It has since been concluded on to keep no detachment for the present below the Sorel as the army have been living from hand to mouth for some time past, the supplies of provisions from the other side of the Lakes being but small, and very little to be procured without force, or paying hard money for it. The common people in general, though they will probably take the stronger side, do, I have no doubt from all the observations I have made, wish well to us and our chase, and would be very glad should we succeed. Forty or fifty men of the 18th regiment commanded by Captain Foster joined by three hundred Indians, and 250 Canadians had (hearing, it is supposed, that this place was in a defenseless situation) come down within twelve miles of this place, having made prisoners of a Major Shelburne, and three hundred men, four hundred of whom he has sent to endeavor to cut off their retreat, while he pursues them with the utmost expedition, with the remainder. Provisions, as I mentioned before, are so very scarce that we are absolutely obliged to seize wheat and flour, pledging the faith of the United Colonies for the payment of the market price. General Thomas is very ill with the smallpox in Chamblee, taken in the natural way. N.B. There are five

instead of three hundred of our people made prisoner. There is a report that General Arnold has beaten the enemy, but no account is yet arrived from himself.

British ships reappear at Delaware

Philadelphia. Today came an express from Lewes Town informing that the Roebuck and Liverpool, British men of war, were got down to the road and had taken their old stations. By another express we have account that the privateer, Congress, sailed out of this port, had taken a British schooner loaded with flour and lumber.

May 18, 1776 Mugford takes most valuable prize of war to date

Boston. The Franklin schooner, one of the continental cruisers, commanded by James Mugford of Marblehead, fell in with one of the enemy's transport ships from Cork, the Hope, bound into this harbor, and took her. The brave Captain Mugford, after seeing his prize safe in Boston harbor, was going out again, but the tide making against him, he came to anchor off Pudding Gut Point. The next morning, by daybreak, the sentry saw thirteen boats from the men of war making for them; they got ready to receive them before they could board the schooner; she sunk five of the boats, and the remainder attempting to board, they cut several of the crew's hands off as they laid them over the gunwale. The brave Captain Mugford making a blow with a cutlass, received a wound in the breast, on which he called his lieutenant, and said, "I am a dead man; don't give up the vessel, you will be able to beat them; if not cut the cable, and run her on shore", and then expired in a few minutes. The lieutenant then ran her on shore, and the boats made off. The men that were taken up from the boats that sunk say they lost at least seventy men. The schooner had one man killed besides the captain.

(A letter from Boston says Captain Mugford severed the man's head from his body at one blow who wounded him, and that one hundred at least were drowned and killed in the boats, and that the schooner's crew consisted of no more than thirty men.)

 Restrictions requested on power of Congress

Philadelphia. The following remonstrance was submitted to the Honorable House of the Assembly by inhabitants of different counties of Pennsylvania--

Congress should not have absolute power in making a new government. It is the representatives of the people who should pass on new government.

Ship's cargo for sale

Newburyport, Massachusetts. Agreeable to a decree of the Court of Admiralty will be sold at public auction on Tuesday May 28 at ten o'clock on Captain Daniel Marquand's Wharf Newburyport, the Ship Friend's cargo, consisting of Porter, Vinegar, Hats, sugar, candles, hand soap, Hyson tea, Pointers, shirts, duck, sewing twine, one silver hilted sword, pistols, coal, beef, ship-bread, peas, Dutch caps, Fearnough great coast, and jackets, trousers, iron hoops, cable, one mizzen, one jibb, one mail top sail, one fore top sail, one wind sail and other articles.

May 19, 1776 An eyewitness report of engagement between Glasgow and Alfred

Hartford, Connecticut. By Captain David Hawley, who came to town from Halifax, which place he left on the twenty fourth of April last, we have the following intelligence, that on the seventeenth of March he sailed out of Stratford, on the twenty first was taken by the Bellona of six guns and eight swivels, the ministerial crew jumping on board him, eager for plunder, damned him, his crew, and country, and then put them as prisoners on board the Bellona. About ten o'clock they joined the Rose, Glasgow, and Swan men of war and went on board the Rose. The next day sailed into Newport, when he obtained liberty to go on board his own sloop, to get his clothes, where he found his chest broke open, and all his clothes plundered. They offered him five shillings sterling per day, a good cabin, that his vessel should be paid for after the dispute was over, and his choice of a plantation in any part of the continent, if he would be their pilot, which he refused, and was therefore parted from his men, and put on board the Glasgow, and not so much as allowed a line to his mate, relative to a glass he had left. On the fifth of April the Glasgow sailed from Newport. In the morning of the sixth discovered sundry sail, and stook for them, came up with and hailed the brig, who answered that they were from Plymouth. Then the brig hailed the Glasgow and was told who they were. Upon signals being made and not answered, as it was still dark, the Glasgow received a heavy broadside from the brig, killed one man, and slightly wounded another, then the Alfred came up, and closely engaged her, for

near three glasses, while the black brig attacked the Glasgow on her lee bow. It was observed, by the motion of the Alfred that she had received some unlucky shot. The sloop of the twelve guns fired upon the Glasgow's stern with little effect, as most of the shot went about six feet above the deck, which, if they had been properly levelled, must have been soon cleared of men. The Glasgow, getting to a distance, fired smartly, and the engagement lasted about six glasses, when they both seemed willing to quit. The Glasgow was considerably damaged in her hull, had ten shot through her foresail, had her spars carried away, and her rigging cut to pieces. On the sixth they got into Rhode Island. Early in the morning of the seventh were fired upon from the shore, cut her cables and ran up to Hope Island, where the hospital ship followed them; the wind shifting to the northward they went out and joined Commodore Wallace, and after a few days sailed for Halifax, and arrived there in eleven days, where Captain Hawley tarried a fortnight. And then he made his escape with eight dollars in a small boat, and came to Old York.

Captain Hawley is of the opinion that if the Alfred had come close alongside the Glasgow, she would have struck.

Captain Hawley also reports that at Halifax were the Chatham, fifty guns, Orpheus, thirty four, Scarborough, Glasgow, and Rose of twenty guns each, an armed brig, two schooners, two small sloops and a number of transports; that the Tamer and

Glasgow were to go home to refit. On the twenty fourth of April the Niger of thirty two guns, with two ships and a brig, having on board seven hundred troops, sailed for Quebec. Five transports arrived at Halifax, from the West Indies, with troops. About nine thousand troops were at Halifax, before any were sent away.

New naval vessels arrive to patrol Boston harbor

Newport, Rhode Island. Two of the continental fleet sailed from here in order to cruise Boston Bay.

May 20, 1776

Gen. Cornwallis reported now at Delaware Cape Fear, Delaware. Three thousand men under the command of General Cornwallis arrived here from England, and Sir Peter Parker is expected at the same place with eight thousand more men to complete the British southern army of ten thousand men.

Boston's fortifications are completed Watertown, Massachusetts. The fortifications at Fort Hill in Boston, at Governor's Island, Dorchester-point, and at the castle, are near complete.

Gunpowder now being manufactured in quantity Watertown, Massachusetts. The public may rely on it as fact, that there has been made at the powder mill at Andover within six weeks about one thousand weight of gunpowder per week. As the powder mills at Stoughton will begin to go in a few days and two or three more to be erected will soon do the same, this colony will be able to furnish the continent weekly with above a ton of powder, without any leave of the pitiful, cringing tyrants of Great Britain, to other powers, not to supply the Americans with that article.

May 21, 1776 Another American frigate is launched, Raleigh,

Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The Continental frigate of 32 guns, built here under the direction of John Langdon, Esq. was launched amidst the acclamations of many thousand spectators. She is esteemed by all those that have seen her to be one of the completest ships ever built in America. The whole time of her building did not exceed fifty days.

Gates and Mifflin are promoted

Philadelphia. The Honorable Continental Congress have promoted Horatio Gates, Esq. to the rank of Major General, and Thomas Mifflin, Esq. late Quarter-master General to the rank of Brigadier General.

Maryland supports independence

Baltimore. The Maryland Convention agrees that the people of their province have the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal government and police. Also that this Convention may draw the whole force of this province into action against the armed force of Britain. Also to lay taxes and change the constitution and change the internal police of some of the United Colonies. Also will enter into any further compact of the United Colonies to defend our rights. There is no need for oaths of allegiance to Great Britain since a reunion with Britain would not be suitable.

British to use Indians in attack on South Savannah. Henry Stuart, British superintendent of Indian Affairs in the Southern district, issued this statement: We are informed that you are under great apprehensions of the Indians doing mischief immediately, but it is not the desire of his Majesty to set his friends and allies the Indians on his liege subjects, therefore, whoever you that are willing to join his Majesty's forces, as soon as they arrive at the Cherokee nation, by repairing to the King's standard shall find protection, and their families, and be free from any danger whatever, yet that his Majesty's officers may be certain of you which are willing to take up arms in his Majesty's just right. I have thought it fit to recommend it to you, and every one that is desirous of preventing inevitable ruin to themselves and families, immediately to subscribe a written paper acknowledging their allegiance to his Majesty, King George III, and that they are ready and willing whenever called on to appear in arms in defense of the British rights in America, which paper as soon as it is signed send you me by some safe hand. Should any of the inhabitants be desirous of knowing how they are to be kept free from every kind of insult or danger, inform them his Majesty will immediately land an army in West Florida, march them through the Creek to the Chickasaw nation, where five hundred warriors from each nation are to join them and then come by Chote, who have promised their assistance, and then to take possession of

the frontiers of North Carolina and Virginia at the same time that his Majesty's force make a diversion on the sea coast of those provinces. If any of the inhabitants have any beef, cattle, flour, or pork or horses to spare, they shall have a good price for them, by applying to us as soon as his Majesty's troops are embodies.

Enemy fleet leaves Portsmouth, Va.

Norfolk, Va. Colonel Woodford reports that the vigilance of his guards has occasioned the enemy to abandon their lines at Portsmouth. This, and some fire-rafts he was preparing, likewise occasioned the fleet to go off.

Dominicans reported very hostile to Americans

Newport, Rhode Island. Captain Thomas Stacey of this place whose vessel was lately seized by the Viper sloop of war near Dominica, informs that the people at Dominica were very violent against the people of America, anyone speaking in favor of her was fined five pounds and imprisoned. Also a brig had sailed from that island for Boston, with a load of rum, etc. in order to fit out as a privateer, that the Captains Jones and Kirby, who had been taken there by the Viper, some time before, were kept on two-thirds of an allowance, that Peter Wikoff of Philadelphia had all his goods, servants, etc. seized by the governor of Dominica, for being an American. (Query-whether it be not high time to seize all the effects of Tories in the United Colonies?)

Comet is damaged in storm

Charlestown, South Carolina. In a violent thunderstorm this colony's brig, Comet, lying in the harbor was struck with lightning, whereby her main mast was shivered, and one of the sailors on board killed.

Newport, Rhode Island. Came to Newport from Boston and set out for New York today, accompanied by his Lady, John Morgan, M.D.F.R.S. etc. Director General of the Hospitals and Physician inChief of the American Army.

May 23, 1776 Comet loses prize vessel to British

Charlestown, South Carolina. Captain Tuffts in the colony schooner Defense, returned from a cruise with a brigantine belonging to New York that had been a whaling. The same day an English man of war and her tender appeared off, and yesterday morning Captain Turpin, in the colony brigantine Comet, with a large ship, a prize, hove in sight. The man of war had lain anchor off the bar all the preceding night, and as soon as the Comet and her prize appeared, weighed and gave chase. The wind being at Southwest, and the man of war considerably to leeward, she could not come up with the Comet or her prize, both of which bore down for the bar, our unfortunately the tide just then turning, and the prize ship drawing 17 feet of water, it was found impracticable to bring her over. She was therefore run aground about 3 miles to the Northeast of Fort Johnson. Captain Tuffts had, previous to this, gone down with an intention of affording all the assistance he could to bring off the prize, but likewise ran aground, and the tide falling prevented the Comet coming near her. The man of war, taking advantage of these circumstances, sent her tender, full of men, to the prize, which had been abandoned and set her on fire. She was the St. James, and was bound from Jamaica to Bristol with a very valuable cargo of rum, sugar, etc., all of which was entirely lost. A few random shot were exchanged between the man of war and the Defense. The Comet fired some guns at the tender, but being at a considerable distance, it is supposed without effect.

Montreal. Colonel Beadle with a party of two hundred men some of whom were Caughnawaga Indians, were posted at a place called the Cedars, forty five miles above Montreal; a number of the aforesaid Indians, who had been up the river in a canoe, informed the Colonel that a party of Indians consisting of about five hundred, with forty British regulars, were coming down the river to destroy him and his men, on which he immediately sent to Montreal for some more help. And the before mentioned gentlemen say that a party of fourteen men under the command of a sergeant, being sent forward to the relief of Colonel Beadle, with some provisions and ammunition, were intercepted and fell into the hands of the enemy. Soon after which the party at the Cedars were attacked, and a skirmish ensued, after which our people abandoned their post and were retreating, when General Arnold came up with about seven hundred men and reinforced them. Matters being thus, they pushed immediately for the Cedars, and with redoubled fury attacked the enemy, killed great numbers, took fifty or seventy prisoners, and routed the whole party, forcing them to fly leaving their bags and baggage behind them. The spoil consisted of six hundred fire arms, large quantity of musket balls, a considerable quantity of ammunition, a number of blankets, hatchets, etc.It is further reported that General Arnold has perfectly recovered his health, and that the Prussian General who speaks the French language has great influence over the Canadians who offer him every assistance in their power.

King George hopes for reconciliation

London. His Majesty King George the Third addressed both Houses of Parliament, "We are engaged in a great national cause, the prosecution of which must inevitably be attended with many difficulties and much expense. I still entertain a hope that my rebellious subjects may be awakened to a sense of their duty...but if a due submission may not be obtained... I trust that I shall be able under the blessing of providence to effectuate it by a full exertion of the great force with which you have entrusted me."

Big British fleet is in James River, Va.

Hampton, Va. Major Hendricks reports that 30 sail of the enemy's fleet were moved down the river, and it appears that their whole fleet is in motion. From our church steeple, he said, I can see 60 or 70 sail of vessels of different kinds, hovering about the mouth of the James River. What they mean is impossible to tell. It is imagined that Dunmore's fleet are coming out in search of provisions, every kind of which is so very scarce with them that the quantity formerly allowed to a single man is now obliged to serve four.

~~assistance in their power.~~

Bostonians discuss methods of independent government

Boston. The freeholders and other inhabitants of this town, qualified as the law directs, met at the Old Brick meeting house, in order to choose their representatives for the ensuing General Assembly, when they made the choice of the following gentlemen, William Phillips, John Pitts, John Brown, William Cooper, Benjamin Austin, Oliver Wendell, Nathaniel Appleton, David Jeffries, Joseph Gardner, and Arnold Welles Esq., Mr. Caleb Davis, and Mr. William Powell.

Mr. Welles and Mr. Powell having declined the service, Mr. Samuel Allyns Otis and Mr. Henry Hill have been chosen in their room.

They have given their representatives these instructions...

At a time when in all probability the whole United Colonies of America are upon the verge of a glorious revolution, and when consequently the most important questions that were ever agitated before the representatives' body of this colony, touching its internal police, will demand your attention, your constituents think it necessary to instruct you in several matters what part to act, that the path of your duty may be plain to you.

The Prince for whom we before would have shed our blood is now a tyrant. Loyalty to him is treason to our country. We have seen his venal Parliament prostituted to our designs. We have seen the people of Great Britain lost to every sense of virtue.

A reconciliation seems to be as dangerous as it is absurd. The recollection of past injuries will perpetually keep alive the flame of jealousy. We therefore think it is absolutely impracticable for these colonies to be ever subject again to, or dependent upon Great Britain, without endangering the very existence of the state. Placing however, unbounded confidence in the supreme councils of the Congress, we are determined to wait, most patiently til their wisdom shall dictate the necessity of making a declaration of independence.

Touching the internal police of this colony, a matter which caused the split in the Pennsylvania Constituency--it is, they said, necessary to preserve harmony among ourselves that the constituent body be satisfied that are fairly and fully represented.

The right to legislate is originally in every member of the community, which right is always exercised in the infancy of a state. But when the inhabitants are numerous it is impracticable for all to meet in one assembly, therefore the need for a few to legislate, freely chosen by the many.

When this choice is free and the representation equal, it is the people's fault if they are not happy. We instruct you to devise some mean of equal representation making sure that the body is not unwieldy for the largest body of men do not always despatch business with the greatest expedition, nor conduct it in the wisest manner.

It is essential that the legislative, judicial and

executive powers be as nearly as possible separate from one another, for where they are united, that mutual check which is the principal security against arbitrary laws, would be wanting.

Virginia sends 1300 more to help North Carolina

Williamsburg, Virginia. It was determined in convention that thirteen hundred minute men, militia shall be immediately dispatched to the assistance of North Carolina, who are to compose two battalions, and to be under orders of the commanding officer of the Continental forces in the Southern department, who is already set out to take the command of the troops in Carolina, with the German battalion of regulars.

We have the pleasure to acquaint the public, from good information, that the militia almost through the whole colony, particularly of the upper counties, are now well provided with arms and ammunition, and ready at a call, to march to the relief of any part of the county which is invaded, or to assist their brethren in the neighboring province.

Hope's valuable cargo is listed

Philadelphia. The following was published in a hand bill in New York. By express arrived from Boston we have the following intelligence, that the Continental armed schooner, the Franklin, commanded by Captain Mugford, on the seventeenth instant, took and carried into Boston, a ship from England, about three hundred tons burthen, mounted with six carriage guns. She left England the fourth of April in company with nine sail of transports under convoy of a frigate, bound for Boston, not having an idea of the precipitate retreat of General Howe. She had on board seventy five tons of gunpowder, one thousand stand of arms, with cartouch boxes, slings, etc. three hundred and eighty five thousand twenty

four penny nails, spare travelling carriager, spades, shovels, crow bars, cured hydes, a large quantity of sand bags, hammers, axes, grindstones, hatchests, wheelbarrows, white rope, saws of various kinds, chisels, gouges, hasps, files, gimblets, planes, besides a number of other articles which will soon be given to the public. The powder, arms, etc. were safely landed before the express left Boston.

More firing is heard at Sandy Hook

New York. A considerable firing of great guns was heard, and is supposed to be from the shipping at Sandy Hook. The reason we have not been able to learn.

Virginia proposed Declaration of Rights

Williamsburg, Virginia. The following declaration was reported to the Convention by the Committee appointed to prepare it---

A Declaration of Rights, made by the Representatives of the good people of Virginia, assembled in full and free convention: which rights do pertain to us and our posterity, as the basis and foundation of government.

1. That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain inherent natural rights, of which they cannot by any compact, deprive or divest their posterity, among which are the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the means of acquiring and possessing property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety.

2. That all power is vested in, and consequently derived from the people, that magistrates are their trustees and servants and at all times amenable to them.

3. That government, is or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit, protection and security of the people, nation or community. Of all the various modes and forms of government that is best, which is capable of producing the greatest degree of happiness and safety, that it is most effectually secured against the danger of mal-administration; and that whenever any government shall be found inadequate or contrary to those purposes, a majority of the community hath an indubitable, unalienable, and indefeasible right to reform, alter or abolish it, in such manner as shall be judged most conducive to the public weal.

4. That no men or set of men are entitled to exclusive or separate emoluments or privileges from the community, but in consideration of public service, which not being defensible or hereditary, the idea of a man born a magistrate, a legislator or a judge, is unnatural and absurd.

5. That the legislative and executive powers of the state should be separate and distinct from the judicative, and that the members of the two first may be restrained from oppresssion, by feeling and participating the burthens of the people, they should at fixed periods, be reduced to a private station, return into that body from which they were originally taken, and the vacancies be supplied by frequent, certain, and regular election.

6. That the elections of members to serve as representatives of the people in assembly ought to be free and that all men having

sufficient evidence of permanent common interest and attachment to the community, have the right of suffrage.

7. That no part of a man's property can be taken from him, or applied to public uses, with out his own consent, or that of his legal representatives; nor are the people bound by any laws but such as they have, in like manner, assented to for their common good.

8. That all power of suspending laws, or the execution of laws, by any authority without consent of the representatives of the people, is injurious to their rights, and ought not to be exercised.

9. That laws having retrospect to crimes, and punishing offenses, committed before the existence of such laws, are generally oppressive, and ought to be avoided.

10. That in all capital or criminal prosecutions a man hath a right to demand the cause and nature of his accusation, to be confronted with the accusers as witnesses, to call to evidence in his favor, and to a speedy trial by an impartial jury of his vicinage without whose unanimous consent he cannot be found guilty, nor can he be compelled to give evidence against himself, that no man deprived of his liberty except by law of the land, or the judgement of his peers.

11. That excessive bail ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

12. That warrants unsupported by evidence, whereby any officer or messenger may be commanded or required to search suspected places, or to seize any person or persons, his or their property, not particularly described, are grievous and oppressive, and ought not to be granted.

13. That in controversies respecting property, and in suits between man and man, the ancient trial by jury is preferable to any other and ought to be held sacred.

14. That the freedom of the press is one of the great bulwarks of liberty, and can never be restrained but by despotic government.

15. That a well regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the proper natural and safe defense of a free state, that standing armies, in time of peace, should be avoided, as dangerous to liberty, and that in all cases, the military should be under strict subordination to and governed by, the civil power.

16. That the people have a right to uniform government, and therefore that no government separate from, or independent of, the government, of Virginia, ought of right to be erected or established within the limits thereof.

17. That no free government, or the blessing of liberty, can be preserved to any people, but by a firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, frugality and virtue, and by frequent recurrence to fundamental principals.

18. That religion, or the duty which we owe to our creator,

and the manner of discharging it, can be directed only by reason and conviction, not by force or violence, and therefore that all men should enjoy the fullest toleration in the exercise of religion, according to the dictates of conscience, unpunished and unrestrained by the magistrate, unless, under color of religion, any man disturb the peace, the happiness, or the safety of society.

And that it is the mutual duty of all to practice Christian forbearance, love and charity towards each other.

May 25, 1776 N. Carolina Tory prisoners arrive in Phila.

Philadelphia. A number of Tories arrived here from North Carolina, who were taken prisoner at the battle near Moore's Creek bridge, and after being examined before the Committee of Safety, were sent to jail. Among them were Brigadier General Donald McDonald, Major Alexander McDonald and Captain Alexander McDonald, James McDonald, John McDonald, Angus McDonald, Alexander McKay, Alexander McCleod, Alexander Morrison, John McCleod, and Murdock McCleod, surgeon.

Capt. Mugford is buried

Marblehead, Massachusetts. Were interred the remains of Captain James Mugford who has left this honor to embalm his memory, that he made as brave and vigorous a stand in defense of American Liberty as any among the living can boast of. His funeral was attended with suitable military honors, by a detachment of the 14th regiment.

May 26, 1776

Escapees from Halifax report reduced allowances there

Newport, Rhode Island. Messrs. Hubbard and Read, millers, who were taken by the British ship Swan, Captain Ascough, commanding, as they were coming down the river last winter in a small boat, came to town from the eastward, having made their escape from the Swan at Liverpool, near Halifax. They say the men of war's people were at three quarters of an allowance.

Biddle takes a valuable prize

Providence. A large British sloop laden with salt, sugar and molasses was taken by the Andrew Doria, Captain Biddle. She was bound from St. Croix to Liverpool in Nova Scotia.

May 27, 1776 Ebemy possesses Gwin's Island, Va.

Williamsburg, Virginia. Gwin's Island, which contains 2300 acres of land, with about five hundred head of cattle, one thousand sheep, situate at the mouth of Plankatank River, is now possessed by the enemy. Lord Dunmore landed eight hundred men there, who have thrown up an entrenchment on the land side which is guarded chiefly by the black regiment. The Gloucester militia were assembled on the opposite shore, and on Tuesday had but one man mortally wounded by a swivel ball, but as the ships of war had taken to secure the pass, and our men having no cannon, it was utterly impossible to interrupt them.

Important shipment of sulph ur arrives

Watertown, Massachusetts. A vessel arrived in this colony having on board ten tons of sulphur, and the remainder of her cargo salt. The former article will greatly help in manufacturing the amazing quantity of 34 thousand nine hundred seven and one quarter weight of salt petre, made in this colony, and brought to the Commissary General's store in this town during the course of the week past, exclusive of what has been carried to the powder mills at Haverhill, Stoughton, etc.

May 28, 1776 , French ports in West Indies are open to American vessels

Charlestown, South Carolina. ~~Extract from Brigadier General Armstrong to Brigadier General Howe.~~

A sloop arrived here from Eustatia with 10,000 weight of powder, the Master of which says that a large vessel had arrived there from Holland, deeply laden with arms and ammunition. He also says that the French ports in the West Indies are open to us, and that the French men of war have orders to protect our vessels in and out of their harbor, that the French are fortifying Dunkirk, which produced a remonstrance from the British Court but without effect.

Philadelphia. A letter from Virginia received by the last post says, General Lee has ordered one, some say two, regiments of our regulars to North Carolina. The Convention have ordered one thousand three hundred and fifty militia there on account of the arrival of more than five transports at Cape Fear. Clinton is landed at Brunswick, below Wilmington, with from twelve to fifteen hundred men.

Conn. places temporary embargo on certain goods

Hartford. The General Assembly of Connecticut, now sitting, have laid an embargo, for preventing the exportation from that colony, either by land or water, of rum, sugar, molasses, salt, or any other West India goods til the first day of November next.

Hope's value is established

Boston.

The prize taken by Captain Mugford recently is estimated to be worth between forty and fifty thousand pounds sterling.

Philadelphia. Instructions of the Congress of Georgia to their Delegates in Continental Congress--

We recommend to you always to keep in view the general utility, remembering that the great and righteous cause in which we are engaged is not provincial but continental.

We therefore, gentlemen, shall rely upon your patriotism, abilities, firmness and integrity, to propose, join, and concur in all such measures as you shall think calculated for the common good, and to oppose such as shall appear destructive.

Archibald Bullock, President

May 29, 1776 British discomforts in Halifax are reported

Nantucket. The noted Dr. Sameul Gelston is returned here from Halifax, he with four others, under pretense of going fishing, having brought off a vessel of about ninety tons. He says there cannot be barracks enough procured for the troops and Tories, so that the latter only go on shore in the day time for an airing, and are obliged to lodge on board the vessels, and also that a great sickness prevailed both among the troops and refugees, many of them having died.

Efforts continue to manufacture saltpetre

Newport, Rhode Island. One gentleman in this town has lately made 140 lbs. of salt peter, several others have made near a hundred pounds each, and 'tis not doubted but that there should have been several thousand weight of this valuable article manufactured here, before this time, had not wood been so scarce and dear.

May 30, 1776

West Virginia regulates price of salt

West Virginia. The price of salt is regulated because of certain unscrupulous people trying to extract the most exorbitant price for it.

Biddle reported to have taken another prize

New York. Captain Allens arrived here from Rhode Island. He says Captain Biddle in a continental brig, sent in a sloop from St. Croix, last Saturday, laden with rum, sugar and salt. She was bound for Liverpool, in Nova Scotia.

Sugar, molasses, and coffee for sale

Philadelphia. To be sold at Hamiltons wharf on board the schooner Mary Ann, from Hispanola, sugar in barrels, molasses in hogsheads, and coffee in cags.

May 31, 1776 Huge enemy fleet reported on way here

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Evening Post publishes an extract of a letter from New York--

General Putnam has just shown me a letter from a gentleman in Salem which very much concerns your place. The writer informs the General that Captain Chapman is arrived there from St. Croix, who says that on the tenth instant in latitude 54, longitude 67:24, he fell in with a brig, the Captain of which told him that he sailed in company of a fleet of seventy sail of transports, under convoy in a hard gust of wind. The fleet had on board a number of Hessians, Brunswickers, and English troops, all bound to Philadelphia, in order to disperse as the Captain expressed it, that hornet's nest, the Congress, after which they were certain the continent would become a very easy prey. God grants that you may be prepared to receive this armament. General Putnam thinks that some troops will immediately march from here to your assistance.

~~Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The frigate ordered to be built for the continental service, was launched today. She is said to be a very fine ship and will be ready next week to receive her guns and men.~~

New essay by Thomas Paine

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Evening Post announces that it will speedily publish a new essay by Thomas Paine entitled the American Crisis.

Williamsburg. ~~Gwin's Island, which contains 2300 acres of land with about 500 head of cattle, 1000 sheep, etc. situate at the mouth of Piankatank river is now possessed by the enemy. Lord Dunmore landed 800 men there on Monday last, who have thrown up an entrenchment on the land side, which is guarded chiefly by the black regiment. The Gloucester militia were assembled on the opposite shore, and on Tuesday had one man mortally wounded by a swivel ball, but as the ships of war had taken care to secure the pass, and our men having no cannon, it was utterly impossible to interrupt them.~~

O'Bryan takes two prizes

Newburyport, Massachusetts. Was taken by Captain O'Bryan into this town a sloop and schooner from some of the British West Indies, bound to Nova Scotia.

Clinton's men make landing at Cape Fear

Williamsburg, Virginia. We learn by express from North Carolina that about thirteen hundred of General Clinton's men

were landed under cover of the shipping, likewise that a troop of horse, who were sent out to watch the enemy's motions, had fallen in with a party of them, killed four, and forced the rest to retire with precipitation.

June 2, 1776

Schuyler awaits Mohawk Indians

Albany, New York. A large number of the Mohawk tribe of Indians, headed by Sir John Johnson has come down the Mohawk River. General Schuyler has marched with a body of troops to meet them.

Flax yarn spinners wanted

Philadelphia. The managers of the house of employment and almshouse put out flax and tow, etc to spin, and in consideration of the high price of many of the necessaries of life, they pay one shilling per dozen for spinning two hanks of flax yarn, and in proportion of other work. Those who incline to accept this encouragement, are requested to apply to John Cummings steward of said house.

June 3, 1776

Jamaicaman captured

Martha's Vineyard. A ship from Jamaica bound to England, was taken by a privateer off George's banks, and carried into Oldtown in the Vineyard. She had on board a valuable cargo, part of which is two hundred hogsheads of sugar. The same privateer was in chase of another ship at the time this prize parted with her.

Fife instructions published

Philadelphia. Just published and to be sold by Michael Hillegas, a complete tutor for the fife, comprehending the first rudiments of music and of that instrument in an easy familiar method. To which is annexed, besides the fife duty, and the usual collection of lessons, airs and marches, in the English edition, a variety of new favorite ones never before printed.

Watertown. The beginning of last week arrived in this colony a vessel having on board ten tons of sulphur, and the remainder of her cargo salt. The former article will greatly help in manufacturing the amazing quantity of 34,907 weight, of salt peter.

Navy launches another frigate

Newburyport,Mass. Another new Continental frigate, the Boston, of 24 guns, was launched today.in view of a great number of spectators.

June 4, 1776 Appearance of British fleet panics Charlestown, S.C.

Charlestown, South Carolina. Ten British warships and more than 30 transports appeared outside Charlestown harbor and brought panic to this principal city and seaport in the South. John Rutledge, patriot leader, was completely unprepared to meet a British attack. He sent a desperate message to General Charles Lee--"For God's sake, do not lose a moment."

~~Newburyport.~~ Was taken by the American Captain O'Brian ~~a sloop~~ and schooner from the British West Indies, bound ~~to~~ Nova Scotia.

June 5, 1776 An eyewitness report of Cape Fear skirmish

New York. The New York Gazette publishes an extract of a letter from Virginia--

Our last accounts from Cape Fear are that Cornwallis was arrived with seven regiments, supposed to be about three thousand men. That he, with Clinton and nine hundred, landed with a view to surprise an officer and ninety men stationed at a mill near Brigadier Howe's plantation. However, they bravely attacked in his house three old women, shot one through the hip, pierced another with a bayonet, beat out the teeth of the third, and then burnt down the house. In their approach to the mill, they had to encounter a formidable body consisting of a sentinel and three men, who without loss to themselves, killed two, wounded an officer, and took a sergeant prisoner. This encounter gave the officer at the mill an opportunity to retreat his men, baggage and everything but four horses grazing, which fell a prey to the enemy. After burning the mill, they retreated with this booty on board the vessels they came from, which should be recorded to perpetuate the fame of those renowned generals. Another time a Captain and his company precipitously fled from the attack of eight riflemen, leaving one prisoner behind them.

P.S. It is doubted whether if the three old women had not been attacked by surprise, they might not have beaten the two Generals.

"Satyr" is advertised

Philadelphia. The subscriber begs leave to acquaint the

public that he has removed from the house of Mr. William Dibley's, at the sign of the Fountain, for the accomodation of all who are curious to view the remarkable creature called a Satyr, of about two feet high, his body resembling a human body in all parts except its feet. He walks upright, and performs various actions to admiration. The sense and agility of this creature renders him worthy of the observation of the curious. Due attendance is given at said place every other hour of the day, Lord's Days excepted, from nine o'clock in the morning til eight in the evening.

Price one shilling.

I. Fowler

June 6, 1776 More news arrives from our Canadian forces

Canada. Extract of a letter.

I was at this moment informed by General Schuyler, that about three hundred of the Regular troops came up the river St. Lawrence as far as the Three Rivers, where they were entrenching themselves busily, at which time General Sullivan, with his brigade, arrived at the Sorrel. He immediately ordered two thousand of his troops under General Thompson, to march down to dislodge them, and by his appearance there is not the least doubt but he will effect his purposes. Should he succeed in this, he is determined to march his army into Quebec as the enemy have not sufficient space to withstand them. Besides, the Canadians are extremely friendly, furnish our army with all such kinds of provisions as they have. They also take commissions and join our army by great numbers previous to General Sullivan's arrival, and finding our little army retreating, the Canadians begged and prayed that our army should not leave the country. From these circumstances, although they are termed a treacherous people, we have reason to conclude that they are determined to be our friends, and to support us with their all.

Another Jamaica vessel is captured

Boston. Was sent into Cape Ann, a large Jamaica man, with five hundred hogsheads of sugar, besides other valuable goods and a large sum in specie. She was taken by one of the continental cruisers, who put the captain and his lady and all the hands (which did not voluntarily enter on board

the cruisers) ashore at New Providence. The prize master of the ship, on his passage from the West Indies, met with a Scotch vessel of force with ninety soldiers bound for Boston, on board of which he breakfasted, and told the Scotch Captain he was destined from Jamaica to London, but as he thought sugar would bear a better price at Boston, he had thoughts of trying that market first. The Scotchman, being a stranger to this coast, desired the prize master to pilot him in, which he agreed to, and conducted him almost into Cape Ann, when he observing two of our privateers appearing in sight, discovered the trap, and being considerably to the windward made the best of his way off.

Yankee Hero reports a foggy engagement

Newport. A small fishing schooner arrived in this river, Yankee Hero, which sailed from Newburyport but the day before, warmly engaged with a ship, but the weather being hazy, together with the smoke from their guns, prevented his seeing how it fared with her.

N.Y. mechanics in favor of separation from Crown

New York. To the Honorable Representatives of the province of New York in Provincial Congress.

The humble address of the general committee of mechanics in union of the city and county of New York--

When we cast a glance upon our beloved continent, where fair freedom, civil and religious, we have long enjoyed, whose fruitful fields have made the world glad, and whose

trade has filled with plenty of all things, sorrow fills our hearts to behold her now struggling under the heavy load of oppression, tyranny and death, but when we extend our sight a little farther, and view the iron hand that is lifted up against us, behold it is our king, he who by his oath and station should support us, whom we have supported--murdering our precious sons of liberty, making weeping widows, for the loss of those dearer to them than life--

We would rather choose to separate from than to continue any longer in connection with such oppressors.

June 7, 1776 Enemy fleet asks Charlestown,S.C. to surrender

Charlestown, South Carolina. A fifty gun enemy ship and about thirty of the transports had got within the bar and the remainder were hourly getting in. The commanding officer of the fleet had sent a flag ashore to know whether they would quietly deliver up the town, and were answered no.

Generals Lee and Howe had arrived at Charlestown with about 1500 men, the militia were daily coming in, and Charlestown is strongly fortified.

Congress
Virginia delegate proposes Independence resolution in/ Philadelphia. Richard Henry Lee, Virginia delegate to the Continental Congress in the Pennsylvania State House, proposed a resolution calling for a declaration of independence, an American confederation, and for attempts to secure alliances with the powers of continental Europe.

Gen. Washington gets a report from Gen. Sullivan

New York. Extract of a letter.

General Sullivan writes General Washington that ten of our friendly Oneida Indians had waited on him and stayed but 2 hours going amongst the Canadian tribes to use their influence in preventing them from joining with the British troops, which they were afraid they would. I saw a letter at General Putnam's yesterday, from the Colonel stationed at the Hook, informing of two or three vessels being arrived there, and that two or three deserters informed him that Sir Peter Parker was arrived at North Carolina with thirty five hundred troops under convoy of a fifty gun ship, a twenty eight and

twenty, that Colonel Ethan Allen is on board the Mercury at the Hook, and Captain Procter is in irons on board the same.

HMS Mercury leaves Sandy Hook

New York. The Mercury man of war, and an armed sloop, sailed for Halifax from Sandy Hook, last Friday, having five vessels under convoy.

There now remains at the Hook, seven ships and some small vessels.

Tory madman slays ~~xxxxx~~ patriot laborer

New York. We hear from Fairfield Connecticut, that one William Prindle, a Tory living between Newtown and Redding, having hired to work for him, a laborer, who on conversing with, he discovered to be a friend to American rights and freedom, in opposition to parliamentary claims of power, he conceived on that account such an aversion to the poor man, that watching an opportunity when he was fast asleep, he at one blow, with a broad ax, severed his head from his body, of which he boasted to the neighbors, saying he had cut off the head of a damned Whig, and wished he could serve them all so; He was committed to Fairfield jail, but is supposed to be a little insane.

Yankee Hero engages HMS Lively *

Boston. The Lively frigate came up with the Yankee Hero, Captain Tracy, of Newburyport, when an engagement commenced, which contained near two hours and a half, when the Yankee Hero was obliged to strike to the frigate, which was vastly

* Newspaper report was in error. It was the Milford, not the Lively.

superior in its force. We have not yet heard whether any of either side were killed.

Yesterday two privateers were seen standing in for Marblehead with a large ship, supposed to be a prize.

Scottish transport captured

Boston. Captain Daniel Waters, in company with a Marblehead privateer, took a large ship from Scotland, having on board ninety-four highlanders, between thirty and forty sailors for the ministerial fleet, and forty pieces of cannon, four and six pounders, besides six mounted on deck etc. The Marblehead privateer took sixty of the soldiers on board, and carried them to Plymouth. Captain Waters, with the prize and the remainder, arrived safe at Marblehead on Saturday. ~~It is said this is the ship mentioned yesterday~~.

Another ship from Jamaica is captured

Boston. We hear that a large ship from Jamaica has been taken by two Connecticut privateers and carried into Dartmouth.

Money is lost, reward offered

New York. Was lost--a bundle of money, containing forty seven pounds, two shillings of New Jersey currency, dated March 25, consisting of one bill of six pounds two ditto of three pounds, a number of thirty, fifteen, and twelve, six and three shilling bills, wrapped in a printed handbill of part of the proceedings of the New Jersey convention. Whoever may have found the same and will deliver forty pounds to the owner shall be entitled to the remainder as reward for his trouble.

June 8, 1776 Enemy defeats American forces at Three Rivers, Canada

Three Rivers, Canada. About 2,000 men under the command of Gen. Thompson marched to attack the enemy at Three Rivers. They designed to have surprised them at daybreak, but the guide led them into a morass, returning from which took them two hours. They then had to pass through a long swamp in the face of the enemy who had a large reinforcement arrived very unhappily that evening and landed in sight of our men. Being well equipped, they gave Gen. Thompson's party so warm a reception, he thought it prudent to retreat. In the mean time a body of 600 men sent off from the enemy to cut off our retreat and destroy our batteaus, which they could not effect. Our batteaus were all saved but one, out of which all the men escaped. Gen. Thompson and about 40 men are prisoners, and about 150 more are missing. Our army are more than half sick with the small pox. The other part have an enemy of more than three times their number.

Yankee Hero and HMS ~~Lively~~ Milford

Details are learned of engagement between/

Boston. Captain James Tracy sailed yesterday from Newburyport, in the Yankee Hero, for Boston, with twenty six men only, including officers. This number was not a quarter of his complement. He was provisioned for a six months cruise, and was to take in the remainder of his men at Boston. The afternoon he went out, going round Cape Ann, he observed a sail in the offing, but in his situation did not think of looking after her. Two boats full manned with their musquets, who had put out after the sail came on board, and informed him a number of transports had been close in with the Cape that day, fourteen men from the two boats joined him, and sent their boats on shore. He had now forty hands in the whole, only a third of his complement, with these he put away for the sail, which bore ESE about five leagues distance, the wind being then westerly. At six miles distance they perceived her to be a ship, and so on from her management to be a ship of war. As a contest with her must have been very unequal, Captain Tracy, who intended to make a harbor that night, ordered the brig to be put about for the shore, not then suspecting the ship could come up with him, but he had not tacked ten minutes, before the westerly wind died away, and the ship taking a fresh southerly breeze, came in fast, endeavoring to cut the brig off from the shore. After some time, the ship thus getting in the wake of the brig, the wind again came fresh to the westward, upon whichthe brig hauled to the wind in the best angle for the shore, the ship gave chase, and

in an hour came up within half a mile, and began to fire her bow chasers, which the brig only answered with a swivel, Captain Tracy reserving his whole fire, until the ship, keeping a constant fire, came up within the pistol shot upon his lee quarters, when the brig gave her the best return they could make, from their main and quarter deck guns, swivels and small arms, and after then kept up a constant fire. The ship was soon up along side, and with twelve nine pounders upon one deck, besides forecastle and quarter deck guns, and with her marines over looking the brig as high as her leading blocks, kept a continual fire, after some time the ship hauled her wind so close, which obliged the brig to do the same, that Captain Tracy was unable to sight his lee guns. Upon this he backed under her stern, but the ship, which sailed much faster, and worked as quick, had the advantage, and brought her broadside again upon him, which he could not evade, and in this manner they lay not a hundred feet from each other, yawing to and fro, for an hour and twenty minutes, the privateers men valiantly maintaining their quarters against such a superior force. About this time, the ships formast guns beginning to slack fire, Captain Tracy tacked under her stern, and when clear of the smoke and fire, perceived his rigging to be most shockingly cut, yards flying about with braces, some of his principal sails shot to rags, and half his men to appearance dying and wounded.

Mr. Main, his first Lieutenant, was among the first wounded, and Mr. Davis, one of the prize masters, fell in the last attack.

In this situation they went to work to refit the rigging and to carry the wounded below, the ship having then taken a broad sheer some way off, and none of her guns bearing; but before they could get their yards to rights, which they zealously tried for in hopes still to get clear of the ship, as they were now nearer in shore, or to part from her under the night, she again came up and renewed the attack, which obliged Captain Tracy to have recourse to his guns again, though he still kept some hands aloft to his rigging; but before the brig had again fired two broadsides, Captain Tracy received a wound in his right thigh, and in a few minutes he could not stand, he laid himself over the arm chest and barricade, determined to keep up the fire, but in a short time, from pain and loss of blood, he was unable to command, growing faint, and they helped him below. As soon as he came to, he found his firing had ceased, and his people round him wounded, and not having a surgeon with them, in a most distressed situation, most of them groaning, and some expiring.

Struck severely with such a spectacle, Captain Tracy ordered his people to take him up in a chair upon the quarter deck, and resolved again to attack the ship, which was all this time keeping up her fire, but after getting into the air he was again so faint that he was for some time unable to speak, and finding no alternatives, but they must be taken or sunk, for the sake of the brave men that remained, he ordered them to strike to the ship. Thus was this action maintained upwards of two hours in a low single decked

English frigate, whose navy has been the dread of nations, and by a quarter the number of people in the one as the other, yet the victors exulted as though they had overcome a force as much superior as this was inferior to them. The brig had four men killed and thirteen wounded including officers; the number in The Milford wounded it is not known, though there were some. The deprivation of these brave officers and men that were wounded, but to the eternal disgrace of Britain and the present King and Parliament, let it be recorded, that in this very action above accounted, upwards of thirty Americans, (prisoners in the Milford) were forced, at the forfeit of their loves, to fight against their countrymen, and the officers and men of the Yankee Hero, that were not wounded, were now detained in several of their ships, and may meet with the same cruel fate, an exaction that even Savages have not been known to require. It is to the credit of the Hero's men, that no one would enter upon the ship's books, though not only urged by every persuasion but by threats.

Captain James Tracy and Mr, Main, his first Lieutenant, we hear, are likely to do well of their wounds, though they mend but slowly. They and the other wounded men are at Halifax, twelve of the Hero's men were kept on board the Milford. Mr. Robert Tracy, his second Lieutenant and the rest of the brig's company are on board the Renown, Commodore Banks.

Williamsburg. We learn by express from North Carolina that about thirteen hundred of General Clinton's men were landed under cover of the shipping; likewise that a troop of horse who were sent out to watch the enemy's motions, had fallen in with a party of them, killed four, and forced the rest to retire with precipitation.

Clinton leaves North Carolina

Philadelphia. It is reported that General Clinton has left North Carolina but for where is not known.

Enemy privateer captured

Williamsburg, Virginia. The piratical vessel commanded by Bartlett Goodrich is taken, and himself and ten others made prisoners. She mounts four carriage guns, and had on board a quantity of West India produce, some gunpowder, small arms, and a number of other very useful articles.

Seizure of three Jamaicamen reported

New York. Two American privateers have taken three very valuable ships bound from Jamaica to London, laden with rum, sugar, molasses, etc. having also a large quantity of dollars and plate on board.

We hear that on board of the above ships, there were several very fine sea turtle, intended as a present to Lord North, one of which, with his Lordship's name nicely cut in them, was yesterday presented by the captain to the worthy president of the American Congress.

British seize American schooner

Block Island. A ministerial pirate has taken a schooner near here and carried her off, and likewise chased two sloops which ran ashore, but have since got off.

Captured vessel is landed at Newport

Newport. Arrived here the ship True Blue, of 20 tons, taken about 14 days past by the brig Cabot, Captain Hinman. She was bound to Lancaster, England from Jamaica, had 16 men but made no resistance.

Penn. assembly removes separation restrictions

Pennsylvania. The Honorable House of Assembly gave these instructions to their delegates in Congress. Our wishes have been for the liberty, safety and interests of America, reserving to the people the sole and exclusive right of regulating the internal government and police of the same.

The happiness of these colonies has, during the whole course of this fatal controversy been our first wish, reconciliation with Britain our next.

We hope we shall not stand condemned by the supreme ruler of all if we stand for self preservation. Therefore we negate the restrictions we made that might lead to a separation between us and Britain or a change of the form of this government.

~~Ticonderoga, N.Y. The American forces, after their defeat at Three Rivers, Canada, have retreated to Fort Ticonderoga.~~

June 9, 1776

British fleet believed heading for Virginia

Williamsburg, Virginia. An express came today from General Lee, with advice that the fleet is gone from Cape Fear, that it was the prevailing opinion they were bound to South Carolina though General Lee thinks that it is most likely they are coming round to this colony. (Virginia)

Martha's Vineyard. A ship from Jamaica bound to England was taken by a privateer off George's Banks, and carried into Old Town in the Vineyard. She had on board a valuable cargo, part of which is two hundred hogsheads of sugar. The same privateer was in chase of another ship at the time this prize parted with her.

One of the Philadelphia prize ships is arrived at Martha's Vineyard. Her cargo consists of three hundred and two hogsheads of sugar, some rum, etc.

Debtors asked to pay up

Philadelphia. The public service requiring my being from home, prevents me from giving personal attendance to my private affairs as formerly, I must request all those who are indebted to me to call and pay it to my wife, otherwise they may expect to be sued without respect to persons, and those to whom I may be indebted, may call and have their money immediately. I beg the continuance of the custom of my friends and acquaintances as formerly, at my house, at the sign of the Buck, in Second Street, where the best attendance and kind usage will be given both to man and horse. Draught and porter as usual. I am the public's most obedient humble servant, Lewis Farmer.

June 10, 1776 Tories abandon Lord Dunmore

Williamsburg, Virginia. It is undoubted fact that all the Tories that were in Lord Dunmore's service have left him. There not being above half the fleet now at Gwyn's Island, where they are gone to is uncertain. It is imagined that this was occasioned by a fever which has raged with great fury amongst them for some time past and from the funeral processions that have been seen there, very probably proved fatal to some persons of distinction.

Great Britain reported to cease hiring mercenaries

New York. We hear from Halifax that foreign troops have been stopped on account of great disturbances in England, and in consequence of a protest by the King of France!

New York. Washington returns from Phila. ~~N.Y.~~

His Excellency General Washington arrived in New York from Philadelphia.

King reviews troops bound for America

London. This day his Majesty reviewed on Wimbledon Common General Burgoyne's regiment of Light Dragoons, who are on their march to Portsmouth, to embark for America.

Conn. raises more troops

Hartford. The General Assembly of this colony ordered three regiments to be raised.

~~New York.~~ Colonel Fanning's Negro man is taken up and ~~sent to~~ jail to be examined this day and make no doubt some discoveries. He says his master sent him up to take care of his

Tory Mayor of Albany is arrested

~~horses.~~ New York. His master is on board the Duchess of Gorden. There are 150 Tories taken prisoner in Tryon county and sent down to Albany, ~~that~~ and the Mayor of that city and fifteen others are sent to jail for drinking success to the King of Great Britain. ~~Friday last a boat was taken by our people coming from the Duchess of Gorden, the men are taken care of, some letters were found on board, and newspapers, for some of Governor Tryon's friends in this city.~~

Defeated American forces retreat from Canada

Ticonderoga, N.Y. The American forces, after their defeat at Three Rivers, Canada, have retreated to Fort Ticonderoga.

June 11, 1776 JohnHancock warms that New York is in peril

The New York Gazette published a letter from John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress to the Convention of Philadelphia.

Gentlemen, The congress have this day received advice that it is the design of General Howe to make an attack upon the city of New York as soon as possible. The attack ~~upon~~ they have reason to believe will be made within ten days. I am therefore most earnestly to request you, by order of Congress, to call forth your militia, as requested in my letter of the fourth instant, and to forward them with all dispatch to the city of New York, and that you direct that they march in companies, or any other way that will hasten their arrival there. The important day is at hand that will decide not only the fate of the city of New York but in all probability of the whole province. On such an occasion there is no necessity to use arguments with Americans. Their feeling, I well know, will prompt them to their duty, and the sacredness of the cause will urge them to the field. The greatest exertions of vigor and expedition are requisite to prevent our enemies from getting possession of that town; I must therefore again most earnestly request you, in the name and by the authority of the Congress, to send forward the militia, agreeable to the requisition of Congress, and that you will do it with all the dispatch which the infinite importance of the cause demands.

American sloop is saved from British

New York. Captain Clapp, who is just come to town, gives an account that a sloop belonging to New Brunswick, from Curacoa, was drove on shore by one of the ministerial pirates a little to the southward of Shrewsbury. The crew got on shore, and by the assistance of the country people drove the pirates off. Her cargo consists of dry goods, and about 300 bushels of salt, which is since safely landed.

Committeechosen to draft Declaration of Independence

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress appointed a committee to prepare a draft of a formal declaration of independence. Among those chosen to serve on the committee were Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Robert Livingston.

British withstand attack at Sandy Hook

Sandy Hook. An American officer reports-- This morning about 4 o'clock we attacked the lighthouse with about 300 men. They were strongly reinforced, being, as I saw a boat go on board from Long Island, previously informed of our design. I continued the attack for two hours with field pieces and small arms, being all that time between two smart fires from the shipping and the lighthouse, but could make no impression on the walls. I then returned to my camp at the fourth end of the Cedars, which I have occupied, and after refreshing my men, sent out 50 to see for game. They have this minute attacked them with small arms, and seven boats are making from the land to the ships. My men are well, and in high spirits, not one of them being either killed or wounded.

June 12, 1776 Prussian king objects to use of mercenaries

New York. There are London papers by which we learn that ~~the first division of the Hessian troops,~~ destined for ~~America, embarked at Stade the 17th of March, and were to sail the first fair wind, and it was said~~ the King of Prussia had positively objected against the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel's forces going in to the English service.

Captured prize is landed at Martha's Vineyard

Martha's Vineyard. One of the Philadelphia prize ships is arrived here. Her cargo consists of three hundred and two hogsheads of sugar, some rum, etc.

June 13, 1776 Bostonians drive off last of Briti h fleet

Boston. The inhabitants of Boston were made acquainted by the beat of drum, that an expedition was to be undertaken against our enemies' ships in Nantasket Road, and for erecting proper fortifications in the lower harbor. Accordingly, detachments from the colonial regiments commanded by the Colonels Marshal and Whitney, and a battalion of train were embarked on board boats at the Long Wharf together with cannon, ammunition, provision, intrenching tools, and every necessary implement, and proceeded for Pettick's Island and Hull, where they were joined by some continental troops and sea coast companies, so as to make near 600 men at each place, a like number of militia from the towns in the vicinity of Boston harbor, with a detachment from the train, and some field pieces took post at Moon Island, Hoff's Neck, and Point Alderton.

At the same time a detachment from the continental army under the command of Colonel Whitcomb with two 18 pounders, one 13 inch mortar, with the necessary apparatus, intrenching tools etc., were embarked for Long Island, to take post there. The troops did not arrive at their several places of destination til near morning, occasioned by a flat calm, notwithstanding such was the activity and alertness of our men, they had the cannon planted, and a line of defense hove up on Long Island and Nantasket Hill, in a few hours, when a cannon shot from Long Island announced to the enemy our design, upon which a signal was immediately made for the whole fleet consisting of 8 ships, 2 snows, 2 brigs, and one schooner, to remove

and get under way. The Commodore Banks bore our fire and returned it with spirit, til a shot from Long Island pierced the upper works of his ship when he immediately unmoored or cut his cables and got under sail and happy for him that he did so, for in a small space of time afterwards a shell from our works fell.into the very spot he had just before quitted. Unhappily our cannon did not arrive at Pettick's Island and Nantasket as soon as might have been wished, but the fire from the latter place being properly pointed against the commodore's ship who came into the lighthouse channel, is apprehended to have done considerable execution. In short, the enemy were compelled once more to make a disgraceful precipitate flight, and we have it now in our power to congratulate our readers on being in full possession of the lower harbor of Boston, and had the wind been to the eastward, we are confident we should have had the much greater pleasure of giving them joy on our being in the possession of many of their ships. Through divine providence, not one of our men were hurt.

Vineyard
British reported about to raid Nantucket-and Martha's/

Boston. It is the intention of an unnamed British General to possess himself of the stock upon Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard, and transport it to Long Island, of which he designed to take possession, with the light horse and a considerable body of foot and to collect all the stock which might be supported on the wheat fields, meadows etc., for the use of the army.

 College degrees are awarded ~~xxxxxxx~~ ten

Philadelphia. The College of Philadelphia held its commencement. Seven men received bachelors of arts and three masters of arts. The usual commencement exercises are postponed to the next public occasion for the convenience of some of the graduates who could not at present give their attendance.

June 14, 1776 Letters are exchanged between Washington and Lord Howe

New York. A barge from the fleet appeared Monday in our bay with a white flag, and there was met by the General's barge, with several gentlemen of the army on board. The flag was sent by Lord Howe with a letter to his Excellency General Washington. But as the letter was improperly directed, it was not received, though much solicited by the officer, who we hear said it contained nothing of a hostile nature. That Lord Howe came over possessed of unlimited power and was much concerned he had not arrived a few days sooner, which would have effected a reconciliation, etc. However, it seems his unlimited power did not extend even to the necessary preliminaries of a negotiation, an acknowledgement of the right of the persons to whom he came, to treat with.

On Tuesday another flag from the fleet appeared, and was met as before, when a letter was again offered, but for the same reason as the former, rejected.

On Friday a third flag from the fleet appeared, which we hear brought only an open letter directed to Miss Margaret Moncrüises.

Saturday afternoon our people discovered a fourth flag of truce, whereupon the Mechanics barge was sent to meet it and conducted the officer, said to be adjutant general of the forces of Lord Howe, to the dwelling of Colonel Knox in this city where his excellency General Washington, attended by his body guards, waited his arrival, which was a little past one o'clock. The interview was short, and the particulars are as yet notmade

known. We can therefore only say, that at parting courtesy was seen to pass between the gentlemen who bore the flag and those of the continental forces who had the honor to be present.

Restriction: are placed on export of salted beef and pork

Philadelphia. In Congress--

Great quantities of salted beef and pork have been purchased for exportation, which if not restrained may render the support of the army difficult and uncertain.

Resolved therefore that no salted beef or pork except as much as may be necessary for the use of the crew, be exported from any of the United Colonies, in any vessel, under any pretense whatsoever, until the farther order of Congress.

By order of Congress. John Hancock, Pres.

New Jersey defies British Governor

New Jersey. In provisional Congress, it is the opinion of this Congress, the proclamation of William Franklin, Esq. late Governor of New Jersey, bearing the date 30 of May, in the name of the King, appointing a meeting of the General Assembly to be held on the 20th day of June, not be obeyed.

He had acted in contempt of Congress, and its resolve of the fifteenth of May last.

That all payments of money on account of salary or otherwise, to the said Will Franklin, Esq. as Governor, ought from henceforth to cease, and that the treasurer of this province shall account for the monies in their hands to this Congress or to the future legislature of this colony.

Fremch are reported offering aid to America

Philadelphia. A gentleman who arrived here from Paris, says that the French are in high spirits, being in great expectation of engrossing the whole American trade. They say that some persons of distinction have waited on General Washington with an offer of French troops and ships of war to oppose the wicked designs of an English ministry, upon condition of their opening a trade with them, that the General declined giving them any answer, but referred them to the Congress, and that an account was received at Paris, that the French gentlemen met with a noble reception, and were assured that if a reconciliation was not soon brought about between them and their mother country, that they would accept the offers of the French court upon the terms proposed. That on receiving this answer, orders were sent to all the seaports that such ships as were ordered for the East India service should stay for farther orders, but hold themselves ready to sail at short notice. He farther adds, that orders were likely sent to Rochelle, that transports sufficient to carry twenty thousand men should be immediately got ready for sea.

Two seamen are deserters

Philadelphia. Runaway on the 26th of May from the Camden armed boat, Richard Eyres, Esq. commander, two men; James Faulkner, a seaman about thirty years of age, red face, long nose, straight hair, about five feet six inches high, had on when he went away, a blue cap, blue outside jacket,

striped inside ditto, striped trousers, course wax leather shoes, he is American born, supposed to be gone to Baltimore, he having a wife there, and was seen going that way.

Laurence Lane, a native of Ireland, speaks low, short curly hair, near forty years of age, five feet eight inches high, much marked with the small pox, short nose, had on when he went away, a round hat, white coat, much worn, spotted jacket and trousers, striped shirt, old shoes, he formerly followed farming, supposed to be in Chester County.

June 16, 1776 British officer describes capture of his ships

Boston. The New England Chronicle published extracts from a letter written by the British Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Campbell to his commanding officer, General Howe, this date... The George and Arabella transports, with two companies of the 71st Company Highlanders, made the land of Cape Ann, after a pilgrimage of seven weeks from Scotland, during the course of which we had not an opportunity of speaking to a single vessel that could give us the smallest information of the British troops having evacuated Boston on the 17th. At daylight, we found ourselves opposite to the harbor's mouth of Boston, but from contrary winds it was necessary to make several tracks to reach it. Four schooners, in which we took to be pilots or armed vessels in the service of his majesty, but which were afterwards found to be four American privateers, of eight carriage guns, twelve swivels, and forty men each, were bearing down upon us at four o'clock in the morning. At half an hour thereafter, two of them engaged us, and about eleven o'clock the other two were alongside; the George transport, on board of which Major Menzies with 108 men of the 2nd battalion, had only six pieces of cannon to oppose them, and the Arabella on board which was Captain McKenzie, and 82 men had only two swivels for her defense. Under such circumstances I thought it expedient for the Arabella to keep ahead of the George, that our artillery might be used with more effect and less obstruction. Two of the privateers having stationed themselves upon our starborad quarter, a tolerable cannonade ensued, which with very few intermissions, lasted til four in

the evening, when the enemy bore away and anchored in Plymouth harbor. Our loss upon this occasion was only three men mortally wounded on board the George, one killed and one man slightly wounded on the Annabella. As my orders were for the port of Boston, I thought it my duty at this crisis to push forward into the harbor, not doubting I should receive protection either from a fort or some ship of force stationed there for the security of our fleet.

Now the four schooners engaged in the morning were joined by the Defense. They made way towards the British ships. As we stood for the Nantakset Road, an American battery opened on us, which was the first serious proof we had that there could scarcely be any friends of ours at Boston, and we were too far embayed to retreat, especially as the wind had died away and the tide of flood not half expended. After each of the vessels having twice run aground, we anchored at George's Island, and prepared for action, but the Annabella, by some misfortune got aground so far astern of the George, we could expect but feeble support from her musketry. About 11 o'clock four of the schooners anchored right upon our bow and one right astern of us. The armed brig took her station on our starboard side, at the distance of 200 yards, and hailed us to strike the British flag. Although the mate of our ship, and every sailor on board (the captain only excepted), refused positively to fight any longer. I have the pleasure to inform

you that there was not an officer, non commissioned or private man of the 71st but what stood to their quarters with a ready and cheerful obedience. On our returning to strike the British flag, the action was renewed with great deal of warmth on both sides, and it was our misfortune, after the sharp combat of an hour and a half to have expended every shot that we had for our artillery. Under such circumstances, hemmed in as we were with six privateers, in the middle of an enemy's harbor, beset with a dead calm without the power of escaping, or even the most distant hope of relief, I thought it became my duty not to sacrifice the lives of gallant men wantonly in the arduous attempt of an evident impossibility. In this unfortunate affair Major Menzies, and 7 private soldiers were killed, the quarter master and 17 private soldiers wounded. The Major was buried with the honors of war at Boston.

Since our capture I have the honor to inform you that we have received the utmost in civility and good treatment from the people of power in Boston, insomuch, sir, that I should do injustice to the feelings of generosity, did I not make this particular information with pleasure and satisfaction. I have now to request of you that as soon as the distracted state of this unfortunate controversy will admit, you will be pleased to take an early opportunity of settling a cartel for myself and officers. I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant. Archibald Campbell. Lieutenant Colonel of the 2nd Battalion, 71st Regiment.

June 17, 1776 An American's version of Campbell's capture appears

Boston. Published in the New England Chronicle...an extract of a letter.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you of the piratical fleet being drove from this harbor a few days ago by our people. They placed a number of cannon on the heights below, and had prepared a number of flat bottomd boats, but the cannon only did the business, and they pushed off with great precipitation, both men of war and transports. Last evening came into harbor two transports, a ship and a brig from the enemy's land, in expectation of finding the fleet that had been so lately driven away, and to their great disappointment were followed in by several privateers, amongst which was the Connecticut brig. On their coming up with Point Anderson they were fired on by the cannon there, when they both struck, and sent on shore a boatload of their men. Night coming on soon, they attempted their escape by going out through Broad-Sound, when the privateers attacked them again, and a very severe engagment ensued for three quarters of an hour. The enemy had a major and seven men killed, and several wounded; all the rest, consisting of 210 Highlanders with all their equipments, were were taken prisoners, amongst whom is a Colonel Campbell. They are now on their way up from Nantasket to this town, all in safe custody. The transports were loaded with provision and baggage, the ship mounted 6 pounders, and the brig two. Where I am writing this they are all in sight. We had three men wounded in the engagement, one mortally, which is all the loss we sustained.

New York will be defended by 25,000

New York. Colonel Magaw's and Colonel Shea's battalions are this day expected from Pennsylvania and a great number of the militia from the different parts of New Jersey, Connecticut, and this province, so that in the course of this week, we may expect to have here an army of at least 25,000 men.

Text of a new play is published

Philadelphia. To be published today, price two shillings,

The Fall of British Tyranny, or American Liberty Triumphant the first campaign.

A tragi-comedy of five acts, containing twenty six scenes, amongst which are the following.

A pleasing scene between Roger and Dick, two shepherds near Lexington.

Clarissa etc. A very moving scene on the death of Doctor Warren, etc. in a chamber near Boston the morning after the battle at Bunker's Hill.

A humorous scene between the Boatswain and a sailor on board a man of war near Norfolk in Virginia.

Two very laughable scenes between the Boatswain,two sailors, and the cook, exhibiting specimens of seafaring oratory and peculiar eloquence of those sons of Neptune, touching Tories, convicts, and black regulars, and between Lord Kidnapper, and the Boatswain.

A very black scene between Lord Kidnapper and Major Cudgo.

A religious scene between Lord Kidnapper and Chaplain and the Captain.

A scene with the Lord Mayor etc. going to St. James with the address.

A droll scène, a council of war in Boston, between Admiral Tombdone, Elbow-Room, Mr. Caper, General Clinton, and Earl Piercy.

A diverting scene between a Whig and a Tory.

A spirited scene between General Prescot and Colonel Allen.

A shocking scene, a dungeon, between Colonel Allen and an officer of the guard.

Two affecting scenes in Boston, after the fight of the regulars from Lexington, between Lord Boston, messenger, and officers of the guard.

A patriotic scene in the camp at Cambridge, between the Generals Washington, Lee and Putnam, etc.

With a dedication, preface, address of the Goddess of Liberty to the Congress, dramatis personae, prologue, epilogue, and a song in praise of King Tammany, the American Saint.

A truly dramatic performance interspersed with wit, humor, burlesque, and serious matter, which cannot fail of affording abundant entertainment to readers of every disposition. The whole comprised in seventy three pages octava, and a new and beautiful type. Inquire of the printer.

June 18, 1776 Editorial recommends governmental checks and balances

New York. The Provincial Congress gave an elegant entertainment to his Excellency General Washington, and the officers of the Continental Army under his command. After dinner many patriotic toasts were drank and one in particular, which deserves to be riveted in the minds of every American, and to be frank by every gentleman in his family throughout the continent, in perpetuam rei memoriam, viz. May placemen and pensioners never find seats in American Senates. It is wholly owing to a fatal influence of this nature in the British Parliament, that Britain has lost the American Colonies, and if she continues to suffer the same, she will not long remain a kingdom, but will become a province of France. And will America split upon the same rock? Forbid it, Heaven! Rather let her guardian angels (the Continental Congress) be ever watchful over those rights and privileges, which her sons should defend, and transmit to the latest posterity a system of political government founded on a basis which can never be shaken, exempted from those defects and errors that have subverted other states. I could have wished to have seen another toast added, viz. May the legislative and executive powers never be lodged in the same hands such a measure is unconstitutional, impolitic, oppressive and absurd. From the same principle, we may as well admit the civil and military powers to center in the same person, which seems to be allowed by all is unconstitutional, but whether it does not still exist in some colonies, may be a pertinent inquiry. Amicus Patriae.

June 19, 1776

~~New York. Accounts received from Canada say that General Thompson, with two thousand men, has been defeated by four thousand, and that the General was accidently taken prisoner.~~

Captured British officers are sent to R.I.

Providence. The officers taken by Captain Biddle out of two transport ships from Scotland arrived here, and have since been conducted to a place of safety in the country, as were also a number of effects belonging to the British navy, who have been confined for some time past.

June 20, 1776 British peace commissioner offers pardons to patriots

From the Eagle off Province of Massachusetts Bay.

This letter was signed by Richard Viscount Howe of the kingdom of Ireland, one of the King's commissioners for restoring peace to his Majesty's colonies and plantations in North America.

Being appointed Commander in Chief of his Majesty's fleet, employed in North America, and having the honor to be one of his Majesty's commissioners for restoring peace to his colonies and for granting pardons to his subjects who shall be duly solicitous to benefit by that effect of his gracious indulgence, I embrace this opportunity to inform you of my arrival on the American coast, where my first object will be an early meeting with General Howe, whom his Majesty has pleased to join with me in the said commission.

In the meantime I have judged it expedient to issue the enclosed Declaration, in order that all persons may have immediate information of his Majesty's most gracious intentions. And I desire you will be pleased forthwith to cause the said Declaration to be promulagated within the province of New Jersey.

Whereas by an act passed in the last session of Parliament to prohibit all trade and intercourse with the colonies of New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, the three lower counties on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia--it is enacted his Majesty to grant a pardon, to declare any colony or province or any place to be at peace with his

Majesty, and that from and after the issuing of any such proclamation in any of the aforesaid places, shall cease and be void. And whereas the King, desirous to deliver all his subjects from the calamities of war, and other oppressions which they now undergo, and to restore the said colonies to his protection and peace, as soon as the constitutional of government, may therein be replaced, hath been graciously pleased by letters patent under the great seal dated the sixth of May, in the sixteenth year of his Majesty's reign, to nominate one Richard Viscount Howe and William Howe as commissioners for granting free and general pardons to all those who in the tumult and disorder of the times, may have deviated from their just allegiance, and who are willing by speedy return to their duty, to reap the benefits of the royal favor, due consideration shall be given all those who assist in restoring public tranquility, and encouragement given to such measures as shall be conducive to the establishment of legal government and peace.

Congress is worried about Indians threats in Georgia

Savannah. To his Excellency Archibald Bullock, President and Commander in Chief of the Province of Georgia,

The Continental Congress ~~thanks him for his high minded speech and says his end are ours of achieving independency.~~ has reporter:

We are truly concerned at that part of your excellency's speech wherein you tell us, your last accounts from the Indian Nations are less favorable than the former, but at the same time that we wish by every means in our power to

avert so great a calamity as would be a consequence of a war with these uncivilized people, yet we are resolved never to submit peaceably to improper behavior in them; and should they be prevailed upon by our inhuman enemies to join in a war against us we trust that God who has already manifested himself in our behalf, will safely conduct us through all our afflictions.

New York. We are informed by a gentleman from Connecticut who arrived in town last night, that the brig Defense, of fourteen guns, belonging to New Haven, Captain Harden Commander, had taken three transport vessels from Greenock, with three hundred Highlanders on board amongst whom were Colonel Campbell. Captain Harden fought two of the above vessels for upwards of three hours, when they were obliged to strike, the other made her escape in the time of the engagement, but there being a fine breeze, and Captain Harden's vessel being a much better sailor, soon came up with and took her. He carried them all three safe into Boston.

American Generals Lee and Howe are in South Carolina

Newport. A gentleman arrived from Charlestown, South Carolina, which he left the fifteenth instant, and informs that the American General Lee and Howe were arrived there from Virginia and North Carolina.

Montreal. A report from an English officer

In a former letter I informed your Lordship that the troops were ordered to assemble at the Three Rivers. They all pushed forward with great expedition, as fast as they arrived off Quebec, by land or water, as best answered that end. The eighth instant the rebels attempted a very bold enterprise indeed. They crossed over from Sorrel in fifty boats, better than two thousand men, landed at the Point du Lai, before daylight, and marched to attack the troops at Three Rivers, disregarding the sloop Martin. Some armed vessels, and transports full of troops, that were at anchor three miles above the town, otherwise than to keep out of reach of their cannon. They made some attempt to force the sixty second regiment; but whether they found Brigadier General Fraser, who commanded at Three Rivers, too strong and too well posted, or that they were alarmed by Brigadier General Nesbit, who landed the troops from the transports behind them, 'tis certain they soon gave up offensive measures, and retreated with all speed up the river, keeping in the woods. The brigs Nesbit and Fraser pushed up likewise, but kept the water side, in hopes of getting their boats and cutting off their retreat, the first as far as Machiche, the latter to Point du Lai. The sloop Martin and armed vessels sailed as high as the river du Loup, and took two boats, but the rest were gone too far, as was their troops.

June 21, 1776 The Captains Barron bring in British transport

Williamsburg. Today came to town Captain James Barron from Jamestown, with the agreeable news that he and his brother, in two small armed vessels, were safe arrived there with the Oxford transport, from Glasgow, having on board 217 Scottish Highlanders with a number of women and children, which they took last Wednesday evening, on her way up to Gwyn's Island, to join Lord Dunmore. The people on board inform, that they are part of a body of 3,000 troops which sailed for Glasgow for Boston but upon hearing that place was in our possession, they steered their course for Halifax; that they had been taken by the Andrew Doria, one of the continental fleet, who after disarming them, and taking out all the principal officers, with such of the transport's crew as were acquainted with navigation, put eight of their own hands on board to bring her into port, but that the carpenter of the transport formed a party and rescued the vessel from them, and was conducting her into Hampton road when the two Captain Barrons very fortunately came across them, and moored them safe at Jamestown, where they are now disembarking, and are expected in town this day.

A detailed report of Biddle's cruise is published

Newport. About a month ago, Captain Biddle of the Andrew Doria, sailed from this port and the next day he took a sloop from the West Indies, which was yesterday condemned as a lawful prize. Ten days after, near the banks of Newfoundland, at daylight, he saw two ships, and in an hour was in possession of them, without firing even a musket. They had each about one

hundred soldiers on board and were part of a fleet of three sail that left Scotland the third day of April, with three thousand troops on board, bound for Boston. Captain Biddle took out of them four land officers, the masters, mates, crews, all their arms, ammunition and removed all the soldiers out of one ship into the other, so that in one ship were all the soldiers, and in the other the officers and their ladies. He was obliged to keep them with him for thirteen days on account of contrary winds.

On the fourteenth day, at four in the morning, five sail of vessels gave him chase, upon which he ordered the ships to steer different courses, himself keeping near to the heaviest sailor, but in about an hour a squall of rain soon arose and hid them from him. The ship with the soldiers on board altered her course and by eleven o'clock was out of sight, the weather then clear. Soon after, the vessels altered their course, as he did this in order to avoid them. At six o'clock he saw another vessel right before and steering towards him, when he again altered his course, and at eight o'clock(dark cloudy weather) he was about three leagues from the nearest of the vessels.

Yesterday Captain Whipple sailed on a cruise and upon the Cerberus appearing in sight, Captain Biddle immediately went on board and sailed, as also did the Providence sloop and two gallies, to the assistance of Captain Whipple, who lay to in order to find the force of the enemy. The man of war gave him broadside and then stood off. Captain Whipple came in, the ship being of much superior force to him.

June 22, 1776 Big British fleet is now off Sandy Hook

New York. The number of British transports now at Sandy Hook amounts to 113 sail and we have not the least reason to doubt that General Howe is in this fleet. From the number of troops now here and those on their way from different parts of the country it is computed our army will soon amount to 25,000 men.

Another British frigate appears off Block Island

Provi dence. We learn that a frigate from Halifax, has joined the Cerberus at Block Island.

Philadelphia. A thoughtful and relevant editorial

The Pennsylvania Ledger published the following comments:

States are upon brink of destruction when the reward of merit becomes the price of intrigue. The theater or spectable of the world resembles that of the Olympic games, some keep shop in it, and think of nothing but their profit, others pay dearly there with their person and run in quest of glory, others content themselves in seeing the games, and the condition of the last is not the worst.

There is not more cowardice in attacking a man unarmed, than there is in speaking ill of a man behind his back.

An empire is in a tottering condition if the magistracy do not obey the laws, and the people the magistrates.

Anarchists came from the extremities of Sychtia to Athens, where the great affairs of state were decided in the assemblies of the people. As those decisions were not always equitable he said to Solon, that he was astonished that men of good sense proposed questions, and left them to be decided by fools.

Thou askest if the ant which is under thy feet has a

right to complain. Yes, or thou hast no right to complain when thou art crushed by the elephant.

Fire was adored in Persepolis, and Persepolis was destroyed by fire. The violent man generally falls by his own violence.

Counter plotting an absurd fellow is like fighting a left handed fencer, you receive a wound, because it comes in a direction from whence you had no reason to expect it, and he gains a victory, merely by his awkwardness.

Liberty is a fine sounding word, but most of those who use it mean nothing more by it than a liberty to oppress others, themselves being uncontrolled by any superior authority.

Political corruption presages, or is a preparative to the ruin of any state or empire. It is easily known when individuals begin to separate their interest from that of the public; and when it takes root, the people of such a corrupt state must naturally be unhappy at home, and little regarded abroad. Then the duration of the state becomes insensible, more and more precarious, and it is chance which either delays or hastens the fate of it,

Monsieur Paschal, in his treaties on the misery of man, says that all our endeavors after greatness proceed from nothing but a desire of being surrounded by a multitude of persons and affairs, that may hinder us from looking into ourselves, when is a view we cannot bear.

A wide variety of medicines and goods for sale

Philadelphia. The following goods are sold by Nicholas Brooks. Keysers pills, Maredants drops, worm cakes, Anderson's

scotch pills, Hooper's female pills, Turlington drops, Bateman's drops, Stoughton's bitters, blue dye, Dr. Hill's balsam of honey, Harleam oil, cripple curing oil.

Elegant paste and stone buckles for ladies, gold earrings, gold and garnet brooches, gold and garnet rings, gold and mocostone sleeve buttons, a variety of cyrstal and paste sleeved buttons, a piece intitled the Comet of '74, a journey through Europe or the play of geography invented by Jeffries, for the instructive entertainment of young gentlemen and ladies, a few enameled lamps, tooth powder and tooth brushes, general atlas containing 36 new and corrected maps by Pularet and others, a view of the engagement between the row gallies and two men of war.

The Brig Hawks will be sold

Philadelphia. To be sold by public vendue at eight o'clock this evening at the Coffee House. The Brig Hawks.

She sails remarkably fast, is just hove down, has a clean tallow bottom, is well calculated for a privateer, or letter of marque, and is all ready to take her guns on board. She now lies at West's Wharf, but will be moved opposite to Market Street. An inventory to be seen tomorrow at the Coffee House.

Marketing maid is wanted

Philadelphia. An advt in the Pennsylvania Evening Post-- Wanted an Upper Maid, of good character, who understands marketing. None else need apply.

June 23, 1776

Whipple's Columbus is attacked at R.I.

Providence. ~~One of the~~ British frigate ~~mentioned in yesterday's report~~ ran in with a small breeze, and fired two broadsides into the Columbus, commanded by Captain Whipple, as she lay becalmed near Newport, which killed one man and cut some of their rigging. As soon as the wind struck, the Columbus, returned the compliment with a broadside, when the frigate sheared off.

French sloop arrives

Portsmouth. Arrived at Falmouth, Casco Bay(Maine) a large French sloop, in from Martinico eighteen days journey with drugs, linens, cloths, etc. The master informs that there are a number of vessels on their passage bound to this and other ports. Also assures us that the French in general are firm friends to the American cause.

Halifax-bound Scotch fleet seen near Boston

Watertown. Thirteen large ships were seen standing in Boston, thought to be the remainder of the Scotch fleet, with their convoy.

HMS Fowey arrives in Maryland to take off Governor

Annapolis. Captain George Montague of his Majesty's man of war Fowey addressed this letter today to Robert Eden, British Governor of Maryland:

Sir, I have the happiness to acquaint you that last night I arrived here with his Britannic Majesty's ship the Fowey under my command, agreeable to an order from Captain Hammond, of his Majesty's ship the Roebuck, and senior officer of his majesty's

ships at Virginia, and in consequence of your application to him, I have hoisted the flag of truce at my top gallant mast head to show that I am not come in a hostile manner, and of which I desire you will be pleased to acquaint the inhabitants, that they may not offer any insults to my officers and boats, and on my part I shall hold the truce most sacred. I have the pleasure to acquaint you that every accomodation the Fowey can afford, is at your friends' service, and that my boats shall at any time be ready to attend your coming off, and sent for your property.

I am sir, your very humble servant, George Montague.

June 24, 1776 Maryland bars British Governor's departure

Annapolis. Informed of yesterday's correspondence between Captain George Montague of his Majesty's man of war Fowey, and Robert Eden, British Governor of Maryland, the state convention today resolved that Captain Montague, by detaining several servants belonging to the inhabitants of this province, and by refusing to deliver up a soldier who deserted from the service of this colony, has violated the truce and acted in manifest violation of his promise to preserve the same.

No baggage or effects belonging to Robert Eden or any other person on board the Fowey are to be carried on board, and all communication with the ship is to cease.

Washington orders more troops for defense of New York

Boston. An express arrived at Headquarters in this town from his Excellency General Washington at New York, with orders for all the troops in the pay of the continent to march for that city as soon as possible, and this day, it is said, one regiment will set off.

Even Tories are badly treated in British West Indie

Newport. Captain Campbell, lately from Antigua, says a vessel from Georgia belonging to Mr. Samuel Brenton, was seized by a man of war with all her cargo consisting of lumber, indigo, etc. He urged his being a friend to the British government as a reason for his being favored, but the Admiral told him the act of Parliament by which he was seized, made no provision for friends of government. He then pleaded the same to the Marshall

for being indulged in buying the indigo himself to ship to England. Just so would all American Tories fare should this country be conquered agreeable to their wishes, but be assured the sun, moon, and stars, shall fall, the ocean cease to roll, and all nature change its course, before a few English, Scotch and German slaves shall conquer this vast continent!

Ship of Scothh fleet is captured

New York. One of our cruisers has taken a large ship on the fourth side of Long Island, and carried her safe into port. It is said she is one of the transports from Greenock with a number of Highlanders on board.

June 25, 1776

Despite Montagues's threats, Maryland stands firm

Annapolis. Captain Montague today addressed this message to the Maryland Convention (see June 23 and 24 for background)--

I have been waiting all day for the return of the boat with the remainder of the Governor's baggage, but to my great astonishment perceive she is still alongside the wharf, and as I yesterday received a letter from Mr. Carroll on behalf of your board, am apprehensive she is detained. If that is the case, it will break off the truce that is now subsisting between his Majesty's ship under my command, and the province of Maryland.

I desire that you will be pleased to let me know the reason of this delay of the boat that I may take my measures accordingly, and desire that His Majesty's boat now sent on shore will return with an immediate answer.

G. Montague.

The Council of Safety replied to Montague, as follows--
By command of the convention I incl[illegible]se the resolution of yesterday, which expresses the occasion of discontinuing their intercourse with the Fowey, which was wished and expected to have ended more satisfactorily. Any measures that may be attempted for the ostensible cause of stopping the Governor's baggage must be properly imputed to your breach of the truce, and will be resented in full proportion to the injury.

 Penn. suspects strangers

Philadelphia. Provincial Conference Resolved, that it be recommended to every County and District Committee in this province to pay the strictest attention to the examination of all strangers or persons travelling through the city or counties to remain therein, unless they produce a pass or certificate from the city, county or district, Committee from whence they last came, and it is farther recommended to all Committees to furnish proper passes to all friends to American liberty upon their application therefor.

Nathaniel Daniel, secretary pro tem

Would-be British settlers land--in jail

Southampton, Long Island. Extract of a letter--

Two of our privateers took a ship and a sloop from England and carried them into an inlet called Nichol's Gut, in the South Bay. The ship had on board five gentlemen, their wives, children, servants and household furniture, intending to settle on some pleasant part of the conquered lands. I hope we shall be able to settle them all as these are settled, viz, in a jail.

Philadelphia **West Indies goods for sale**

To be sold by Pelatiah Webster, in Water St. Philadelphia, Jamaica spirits, West India and country rum, pepper, raw ginger, spermacetti candles, about one hundred weight of Rhubarb, etc.

June 26, 1776

Montague yields to Marylanders

Annapolis. The correspondence between the Maryland Convention and Captain George Montague of the Fowey came to an end today with the Fowey hoisting sail and going down the Bay.

Philadelphia Gates to command Northern Department

Yesterday the Honorable Major General Gates set off for Canada, being, ~~[illegible]~~, appointed Commander in Chief for the Northern department.

Philadelphia. Comgress examines enemy suspects

Information being made, that several persons inimical to the rights of America, had entered into a solemn agreement to aid and assist our unnatural enemies, and make themselves masters of our city, several of them are now examining before our Honorable Congress. ~~We expect to give our leaders a more full account of this plot in our next.~~

June 27, 1776 **British West Indies experience difficulties**

Grenada. Extract of a letter from a planter to his friend in London, found on board the ship Friendship, lately taken by the Diamond privateer.

All things in the Sugar Islands at this juncture, afford a most gloomy prospect. Provisions for the Negroes are not to be purchased, and all sorts of commodities from the manufacture of sugar are at three times the price they were the last year, while, at the same time, the Dutch and French islands abound with everything. In short, calamity, is our present state and God only knows when it will end.

June 28, 1776 Americans score important victory in South Carolin

Sullivan's Island, South Carolina. In an attack on the patriot ~~furthermore two days ago~~ fort here the Bristol of Sir Peter Parker was badly damaged. If the water had been rougher she would have sunk.

The Commodore's captain lost an arm and was sent to London in a Brigantine. 44 men killed, many wounded. The Bristol when lightened draws twenty feet of water. Experiment of fifty guns damaged in her hull. Killed 57 including the captain. Neither of these large ships will go safely over the bar again to escape to Antigua. Solebay, 2 men killed. Action, 28, Sphynx, 20, Syren, 28. All got aground. The Sphynx cut away her bowsprit, the Syren got away, the ~~Action~~ Actaeon remained, fast burnt and blown up by her own people. While she was on fire, Mr. Millegan, one of the Carolina marine officers and a party of men boarded her, brought off her colours, the ship's bell, and as many sails as three boats could contain.

The Thunder bomb lay at considerable distance throwing shells at the fort, and by overcharging had shattered the beds and damaged the ship so much as to render it necessary for her to go into dock before she can act again.

The Friendship covered the bomb as did Syren, the whole fleet badly manned and sickly, particularly the Syren's crew at two thirds short allowance of provisions and water. They have had no fresh meat since their arrival (June 1).

Lord William Campbell had been anxious for the attack and proposed to take all the forts with only the Syren and Solebay.

Lord Cornwallis and General Clinton are both on shore with the troops at Long Island, His Lordship had, some time ago, urged Sir Peter Parker to attack on the seaside, otherwise he would march up, attack and take the fort, and complain of Sir Peter's tardiness. The commodore replied, Lord Cornwallis might march his troops when he pleased, but the fleet required a fair wind, the first that happened he would proceed against the fort. The General at that time believed we had no troops out of garrison, but he was soon better informed, being since repulsed, and drove back with loss, he remained quiet and left the commodore to enjoy the glory of being defeated alone.

About two o'clock some of enemy cried out that the Yankees had done fighting, others replied they were glad of it, for they never had such a drubbing in their lives. They had been told the Yankees would not stand two fires, but they never saw better fellows. All the common men in the fleet spoke loudly on praise. There was a report in the fleet that no quarter would be given the Americans, and that 5,000 pounds had been offered for General Lee. (See Aug. 29 for more)

Congress protects rights of Tories

Philadelphia. In Congress. Resolved that no man in these colonies charged with being a Tory or unfriendly to the cause of American Liberty, be injured in his person or property, or in any manner whatever disturbed, unless the proceeding against him be founded on an order of this Congress, or the Assembly convention, Council or Committee of Safety of the colony, or

Committee of Inspection of the district where he resides. Provided that this resolution shall not prevent the apprehending any person found in the commission of some act destructive of American Liberty, or justly suspected of a design to commit such act, and intending to escape and bringing such person before proper authority, for examination and trial.

Charles Thompson, Secretary

June 29, 1776 **Enormous enemy fleet appears in New York harbor**

New York. The British General Howe anchored in New York Bay with the first of an expeditionary force which came down from Halifax. A Daniel McCurtin wrote, "I spied as I peeped out something resembling a wood of pine trees trimmed. The whole (of New York)Bay was fill of shipping as ever it could be. I thought all London was afloat." An enemy fleet of more than 100 sail had anchored in the Lower Bay.

Exchange of prisobers requested by Lord Dunmore

Williamsburg . Lord Dunmore sent a flag from Gwyn's Island with a letter for General Lewis, wherein he proposes exchange of prisoners, and wants his countrymen, the Highlanders. His Lordship sent no account of the prisoners in his possession, and it is much doubted whether he had a sufficient number to answer his purpose.

June 30, 1776 **British sloop seized, famous judge on board**

New York. One of our cruisers, on the fourth side of Long Island, took a large Bermudian-built sloop from Halifax laden with entrenching tools, bound for this place, in which a number of the Boston refugees are on board, among whom it is said is Robert Auchmy, Esq. late judge of the Admiralty at Boston, and brother to the Reverend of New York.

July 1, 1776 **Body of British naval officer is discovered**

Boston. Commodore Bank's first lieutenant, killed in the engagement with Captain Mugford, was found on Deer Island. He had in his pocket five guineas and four dollars, a gold watch, and by his side a silver hilted sword.

British , repul ed in South Carolina, sail for N.Y.

Charlestown, South Carolina. The British Admiral Parker and General Clinton abandoned their attempt to conquer the Carolinas and have sailed off to New York to join the forces gathering there for a major attack on the patriots.

July 2, 1776

Congress announces secession

Philadelphia. The Continental Congress meeting in the Pennsylvania State House at Philadelphia announced the secession of the thirteen colonies from the British Empire and the birth of a new nation, the United States of America. John Adams, noting the historic occasion wrote to his wife Abigail: The second day of July 1776 will be the most memorable epocha in the history of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance, by solemn acts of devotion to God Almighty. It ought to be solemnized with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations, from one end of this continent to the other, from this time forward, forevermore.

British land on Staten Island

New York. General William Howe and thousands of British regulars from Halifax have landed on undefended Staten Island.

Gen. Lee reports to Congress on victory in South Carolina

Charlestown, South Carolina. From Major General Lee to *President of Congress, John Hancock--*

I should have done myself the honor sooner of informing the Congress of the attack on Sullivan's Island by the enemy, and their repulse.

Yesterday, five seamen made their escape, one of whom is a more intelligent fellow than is commonly found at his level. Enclosed is a copy of their narrative. I may venture to congratulate Congress on the event.

On Friday about 11 o'clock, the Commodore, Sir Peter Parker, with his whole squadron consisting of two line of battleships and six frigates, anchored at less than half musket shot from the fort and commenced one of the most furious and incessant fires I ever saw or heard. It was manifestly their plan to land at the same time their whole regulars, the east end of the island and of course invest the fort by land and sea. As the garrison was composed of raw troops, both officers and men, I thought it my duty to cross over to the island to encourage the garrison by my presence. But I might have saved myself that trouble, for I found on my arrival they had no occasion for any sort of encouragement. I found them determined and cool to the last degree. Their behavior would in fact have done honor to the oldest troops.

I therefore beg leave to recommend in the strongest terms to the Congress, the Commanding officer, Colonel Moutrie, and his whole garrison as brave soldiers. Nor must I omit at the same time Colonel Thompson who with the South Carolina Rangers and a detachment of North Carolina regulars repulsed the enemy.

Our loss, considering the heat and duration of the fire, was inconsiderable. We had only ten men killed on the spot and twenty two wounded(and with more gallant words on his men's conditions he closed the letter.)

Capt. Barron captures another British vessel

Williamsburg. Was taken near the Capes, and moored safe

in Hampton Creek, by Captain Richard Barron, a sloop from Providence with a large quantity of limes, pineapples, turtle etc., also two carriage guns, 14 swivels.

Hessians arrive in Halifax

Halifax. A transport ship, having on board a number of Hessians, arrived here today.

July 3, 1776 The taking of Staten Island by British is reported Trenton. A gentleman was passing from Staten Island to Brunswick around 12 noon when he was surprised by 3 or 4 British officers and about 100 regulars who detained him upwards of three hours.

In the course of this confinement he met with Courtland Skinner, who told him that General Howe, with his army, from 7 to 10,000 men, had landed the night before, and taken possession of every pass on the island. He says he saw most of the troops, but as they were dispersed through the island, he could form no idea of their numbers. Skinner also told him that the fleet from England had arrived at the Hook, on the night of their landing, with 10,000 men, who were to land on Staten Island, as of this morning, that they had placed two regiments opposite Amboy, had planted several pieces of cannon there, and at each of the ferries. He also asked the officers if the (peace) commissioners were come, to which they answered yes, and that they were the very men most proper to settle differences of this sort and also told him they were determined to dislodge our worthy General from New York.

He left New York yesterday morning, where the Jersey militia had most of them arrived. The General and his troops were in high spirits, and he supposes much disappointed at this sudden movement of Howe's. The Jersey militia have turned out unanimously to their great credit, but as most of them are gone over to York, would it not be necessary for Pennsylvania to send them assistance? The gentleman thinks that both the General's express and the stage are in all probability stopped.

Howe treated him very genteely and dismissed him at half past two. The enemy have taken several of the riflemen who were on their way to Pennsylvania. It is hoped that all such scoundrels who will quit an army in sight of an enemy may meet the same fate.

American officers are prisoners aboard British vessel New York. We have undoubted authority to assure the public that Major Lamb, Captain Oswald, (late aide-de-camp to General arnold) and Captain Burr who were taken prisoners at Quebec when that most worthy asserter of our noble rights and privileges, General Montgomery fell a victim to ministerial vengeance, are on board the ministerial fleet at Sandy Hook.

It is also currently reported that our cruisers have taken thirteen sail of transports to the eastward.

Indians are on the warpath in the South

Augusta, Georgia. ~~The Virginia Gazette publishes the following letter to~~ His Excellency, A. Bullock, ~~Sir, I take the liberty of enclosing, your~~ Commander of our forces in Georgia received this report today regarding activities of hostile Indians: Excellency, the copies of two depositions which came by e press from Major Williamson yesterday, likewise a copy of an intercepted letter from Henry Stuart, to the frontier inhabitants of North Carolina and Virginia.

I am afraid the emissaries of government have at last accomplished their hellish designs with the Cherokees, yet I believe they have mistimed matters, as I hoped we shall be able to give them a good drubbing before they can get assistance from the King's troops or any other nation.

deerskins, told him to make shoes for himself, to walk over the hills to Mr. Camcros for he must go with him there, that during his confinement one Ratcliffe, a white man, kept riding about among the Indians, laughing and scoffing at the prisoners, that an Indian fellow told him, when in confinement, that George Parris, a half breed, was gone down to acquaint the King's people over Saluda to come up join the Indians, to help and to fight for the King; that the Indian who pretended to be the deponent's master, sending him to hunt a horse for him to ride, about two hours before sunset yesterday, he made his escape from them. Farther that he saw them bring several guns, pipe hatchets, and sundry other effects, the property of Edward Wilkinson Esq. to the house where he was taken, and that he cannot write.

Signed, David Shettroe, his mark.

Gentlemen, some time ago Mr. Cameron and myself wrote you a letter by Mr. Thomas, and enclosed you talk we had with the Indians respecting the purchase which is reported you lately made of them on the Rivers Wattaga, Noluchuckey, etc. We are since informed that you are under great apprehensions of the Indians doing mischief immediately, but it is not the desire of his Majesty to set his friends and allies the Indians on his liege subjects, therefore, whoever you that are willing to join his Majesty's forces, an soon as they arrive at the Cherokee nation, by repairing to the King's standard shall find protection, and their families, and be free from any danger whatever, yet that his Majesty's officers may be certain of you which are willing to take up arms in his Majesty's just right, I have

Abandoning South Carolina, Clinton loses a ship

Williamsburg. A gentleman from South Carolina brings advice that eight sail of Clinton's transports ~~being~~ were drive ashore off Charlestown and one of them totally lost with several men.

Last night Major Williamson had upwards of a thousand men embodied, and in a few days expected to have five, when they intend marching immediately into their nation. Should this happen, your Excellency will doubtless see the necessity of having some force on the frontiers of this province. I shall order the draught that has been made of this regiment to Broad River and Ogechee as soon as possible, but not to go over the line til I receive your Excellency's orders, which I shall wait for with impatience. I shall likewise be glad to know how far we are to act in concert with the Carolinians, or if we are only to guard our own frontiers. I have not heard from the Creeks for some time past; the last accounts were favorable. I mentioned to your Excellency some time ago our intention of carrying two Indians to Ninety-six District, which I did, they saw a poor fellow suffer death, and we have since sent them off to their nation, perfectly satisfied. I am with due respect, your Excellency, very humble servant, H. Lee.

Lee also enclosed the following letters for Bullock:

South Carolina, Ninety-six District. Personally appeared Aaron Smith, son of Captain Smith of Little River in the said district, planter, who being duly sworn maketh oath, that this morning about day-break, a number of Indians, about eight or ten in number, came to his father's house, and killed him and Lorick Smith his son, and fired upon him and his brother who made their escape, and that he believes the rest of the family are killed.

Signed Aaron Smith.

(Little River is in South Carolina six miles from the Indian Land).

South Carolina, Ninety-six District. Before me John Purves one of the justices of the peace personally appeared David Shettroe of Keowee, who being duly sworn, maketh oath that yesterday morning a quarter of an hour or so before the first cock crew, two Indians came to his house on the river bank, near Fort Prince George, and called him to get up, which he did and opened the door, when they came in and asked for water, which he gave them. The youngest of the two, named the Glass, desired him to make some fire that they might see, the other named the Tarapin. As he went up to the chimney, to blow up the fire, the Glass laid hold of him, and told him he was his slave, it was very bad times, the white people were going to break out, and he should not run away from him, then the Tarapin stepped up to an old man named William Teer, who was lying on the floor, and told him he was his slave, and must go along with him. They drove the deponent Mr. Teer before them til they came to the house of Mr. Hames Holmes, in Keowee, where he saw a great number of the Lower Towns Cherokee Indians, where they had taken Mr. Holmes and his wife and a white child prisoners, also Thomas Holmes, John Lamas and his wife, and two of their children, (boys), and a man that had gone from Encore on business. That while he sat there they also brought one John Garrick, and a man that came from Rocky Run prisoners. That the Indians took all Mr. Holmes effects, drank as much rum as they chose, and then shove a hogshead, and let the rum that was in it run out; that about the dawn of day the Indians drove all the white people out of the house, and sent a party up the river with them to guard them except the deponent, who stayed and saw them plunder Mr. Holmes house. The fellow who took this deponent prisoner, gave him two

July 4, 1776

America declares independence

Philadelphia. A Declaration by the representatives of the United States of America in General Congress assembled:

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the Powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed. That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that Governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same Object

evinces a design to reduce them under absolute Despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such Government, and to provide new Guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these Colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former Systems of Government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute Tyranny over these States. To prove this, let Facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his Assent to Laws, the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his Governors to pass Laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation til his Assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them.

He has refused to pass other Laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of Representation in the Legislature, a right inestimable to them and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the depository of their Public Records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved Representative Houses repeatedly, for opposing with manly firmness his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused for a long time, after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the Legislative powers, incapable of Annihilation , have returned to the People at large for their

exercise; the State remaining in the mean time exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without, and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these States, for the purpose obstructing the Laws of Naturalization of Foreigners; refusing to pass others to encourage their migration hither, and raising the conditions of new Appropriations of Lands.

He has obstructed the Administration of Justice, by refusing his Assent to Laws for establishing Judiciary Powers.

He has made Judges dependent on his Will alone, for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of New Offices, and sent hither swarms of Officers to harass our People, and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, Standing Armies without the Consent of our legislature.

He has affected to render the Military independent of and superior to the Civil Power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his Assent to their acts of pretended legislation:

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock Trial, from Punishment for any Murders which they should commit on the Inhabitants of these States:

For cutting off our Trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing taxes on us without our Consent:

For depriving us in many cases, of the benefits of Trial by Jury.

For transporting us beyond Seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free System of English Laws in a neighboring Province, establishing therein an Arbitrary government, and enlarging its Boundaries so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these Colonies:

For taking away our Charters, abolishing our most valuable Laws, and altering fundamentally the Forms of our Governments.

For suspending our own Legislature, and declaring themselves invested with Power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated Government here, by declaring us out of his Protection and waging War against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our Coasts, burnt our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of Cruelty & perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the Head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow Citizens taken Captive on the high Seas to bear Arms against their Country, to become the executioners of their friends and Brethren, or to fall themselves by their Hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and had endeavoured to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian Savages, whose known rule of warfare, is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes and conditions.

In every stage of these Oppressions We have Petitioned for Redress in the most humble terms: Our repeated Petitions have been

answered only by repeated injury. A Prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a Tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free People.

Nor have We been wanting in attention to our British brethren. We have warned them from time to time of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity, and we have conjured them by the ties of our common kindred to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They too have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity, which denounces our Separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, Enemies in War, in Peace Friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the united States of America, in General Congress, Assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do , in the Name and by Authority of the good People of these Colonies solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States; that they are Absolved from all Allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain, is and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as Free and Independent States, they have full Power to levy War, conclude Peace, contract Alliances, establish Commerce, and to do all other Acts and Things which Independent States may of right do. And for the

support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the Protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor.

John Hancock

New Hampshire

Josiah Barlett
William Whipple
Matthew Thornton

Massachusetts Bay

Samuel Adams
John Adams
Robert Treat Paine
Elbridge Gerry

Rhode Island

Stephen Hopkins
William Ellery

Connecticut

Roger Sherman
Samuel Huntington
William Williams
Oliver Wolcott

Georgia

Button Gwinnett
Lyman Hall
George Walton

Maryland

Samuel Chase
William Paca
Thomas Stone
Charles Carroll of Carrollton

Virginia

George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
Theodore Jefferson
Benjamin Harrison
Thomas Nelson, Jr.
Francis Lightfoot Lee
Carter Braxton

New York

William Floyd
Phil Livingston
Francis Lewis
Lewis Morris

Pennsylvania

Robert Morris
Benjamin Rush
Benjamin Franklin
John Morton
George Clymer
James Smith
George Taylor
James Wilson
George Ross

Delaware

Caesar Rodney
George Read
Thomas M'Kean

North Carolina

William Hooper
Joseph Hewes
John Penn

South Carolina

Edward Rutledge
Thomas Heyward, Jr.
Thomas Lynch, Jr.
Arthur Middleton

New Jersey

Richard Stockton
Jonathan Witherspoon
Francis Hopkinson
John Hart
Abraham Clark

July 5, 1776 Prayers for the King will be omitted from now on

Williamsburg. In Convention--Resolved that the following sentences in the morning and evening service shall be omitted, "Oh Lord, save the King*, and mercifully hear us when we call upon thee"; that the two prayers, for the King's Majesty, and the royal family shall be omitted, that the 15,16,17,18 sentences in the litany of the King's Majesty shall be omitted.

British party is captured

New York. The Captain of a British transport and four of his men were taken at the Narrows and brought to town. They were looking for a boat that had gone adrift, and going too near the shore were taken by the Riflemen.

Yankee takes two British prizes

Salem. Was taken and sent into Cape Ann by the Yankee, privateer sloop of the continental service, lately fitted out of Boston, to cruise against the unnatural enemies of America, commanded by Captain Henry Johnson, the ship Creighton, Ross master, bound from Antigua to Boston. Was also sent in by Captain Johnson, the ship Zechariah Baily, a letter of marque of 24 guns.

Worm-destroying medicine for sale

New York. (An advertisement in the New York Gazette) Dr. Ryans' incomparable worm-destroying sugar plums, necessary to be kept in all families. So exceedingly valued by all people who have had them in Great Britain and Ireland, for their transcendence excellency in destroying worms of all kinds in the bodies of men, women and children.

July 6, 1776 More xreports of our retreat from Canada

New York. By accounts from Canada we learn that our army has retreated to Isle aux Noix, from whence they have sent their sick and baggage to Crown Point.

Patriots blow up ship to avoid capture by British

Philadelphia. By accounts from the Capes we are informed that a brig from St. Thomas' with 400 barrels of powder, arms, dry goods, etc. coming into our Capes on Sat last was chased by the King Fisher and run aground off Cape May. Captains Barre and Weeks sent their boats to assist in unloading her. Having taken out all the arms, cannon, 160 barrels of powder and some dry goods, as much as the boats would hold, they discovered the men of war's boats coming to her, upon which they opened the remainder of the powder, and spreading some doubled canvas upon it, they laid on the canvas live coils, and left her, one of the man of war's boats having got along side, they had hardly boarded her before she blew up.

Indian chief insists on neutrality

Fort Pitt, Pennsylvania. At a meeting held this day at this place, present Kiasuta, a Mingo chief just returned from the treaty at Niagara; Captain Pipe, a Delaware Chief, the Shader, a Shawanese chief, with several others, Shawanese and Delawares; likewise Major Trent, Major Ward, Captain Nevill, his officers, and number of inhabitants, after being seated, Kiashuta made the following speech.

" Brothers. Three months ago I left this place to attend a treaty at Niagara, to be held between the commanding officers

at that place and Six Nations, Shawanese, Delawares, etc. but I was stopped near a month at Cannywagoe, as the commanding officer had sent word to the Indians not to assemble until he should hear from Detroit. While I was at Cannywagoe, eight hundred Indians, of the Six Nations, hearing of my intention, of going to the treaty, came to meet and go with me Just as we arrived at a small village beyond Cannywagoe, they received a message from the commanding officer, acquainting them the treaty was over, but they notwithstanding, persisted in going. I received a message at the same time inviting me to come, and assuring me that the council fire was not yet intirely extinguished. Upon my arrival, with the rest of the Indians, I informed the commanding officer that I had come a great distance to hear what he had to say, and desired that he would inform me, but he told me that he was not yet prepared to speak with me, which ended our conference."

Kiashuta then produced a belt of the wampum which was to be sent from the Six Nations to the Shawanese, Delawares, Wyandotts, and Western Indians, acquainting them that they were determined to take no part in the present war between Great Britain and America, and desiring them to do the same.

N.B. Kiashuta has the belt and is ordered by the Six Nations, to send it through the Indian country.

He then addressed himself to the Virginians, and Pennsylvanians, in the following manner:

"Brothers, we will not suffer neither the English or Americans to march an army through our country. Should either attempt it, we shall forewarn them three times from proceeding; but should they then persist, they must abide by the consequence. I am appointed by the Six Nations to the care of this country, that is, to the care of the Indians on the west side of the river Ohio, and I desire you will not think of an expedition against Detroit, for, I repeat it to you again, we will not suffer an army to march through our country."

Kiashuta again rose and spoke as follows:

"Brothers, should any mischief chance to be committed by any of our people, you must not blame the Nations, nor think it was done by the approbation of the chiefs, for the Six Nations have strictly forbid any of their young men or tributaries to molest any people on their waters, but if they are determined to go to war, let them go to Canada, and fight there."

A string. Kiashuta then addressed himself to the Delaware chief desiring him to inform his nations of what he had heard, and to request them to be strong, and join with the other nations in keeping peace in his country.

A string. He also recommended to the Shade, a Shawanese chief, to do the same. He then desired the foregoing speech might be dēstributed through the country, to quiet the minds of the people and convince them the Six Nations and their adherents did not desire to live at variance with them.

To which Captain Nevill returned the following answer, " Brother Kiashuta, I am much obliged to you for your good speech on the present occasion. You may depend we shall not attempt to march an army through your country without first acquainting you with it, unless we hear of a British army coming this course, in such case we must make all possible speed to march and endeavor to stop them."

To which Kiashuta replied, there was not the least danger of that, as they should make it their business to prevent either an English or an American army from passing through their country.

July 7, 1776 British xdesertions becoming numerous

New York. Seven seamen belonging to the Killingswirth transport, of seven hundred tons, were brought to town from Long Island, having deserted the ship the night before. They say the number of soldiers with the fleet is about 8500 who are all encamped and that many of the seamen intended to desert the fleet when an opportunity presented.

British naval officer blames army for S.Carolina defeat

Charlestown. Extract of a letter from on board his Majesty's ship Bristol.

Had the (British) army which was but four miles from us, and was to have joined us, came at one time to our assistance we might have taken Charlestown, as we silenced the fort for an hour and a half, but they took no notice of us. I should say a great deal on this subject, but shall defer it. We are in a shattered condition, and are getting up jury marks to go to Halifax to repair, which will take some time, being shot through and through. General Lee is at Charlestown and our fleet is in bad condition with scurvy.

July 8, 1776 New York Gazette recaps British landings on Staten Island

New York. The fleet from Halifax we (The New York Gazette) informed our readers in our last was arrived at Sandy Hook, to the amount of 113 sail. It is difficult from their situation to ascertain their number, but we suppose it does not exceed 130 sail. Monday it came up into Yakes's Bay below the Narrows. Tuesday several ships came to at the Watering Place. Wednesday more followed, and by Thursday noon, the whole fleet was at anchor in a line from Kill Van Kull to Simonson's ferry on the east side of Staten Island. The Asia brought up the rear of the fleet, and in the Narrows was fired at from a small battery on Long Island which complement was returned by about forty 24 pounders one of which lodged in the wall of the house of Mr. Bennet, but did not hurt to the family, and three shot had done much mischief to the house and family of Mr. Dennise, one of them narrowly missing the kitchen, wherein a number of the family was, a second struck the barn, and the third destroyed much of the fence of the garden opposite the front door of the mansion house.

Part of the army is encamped on Staten Island, and we have not the least reason to doubt, will endeavor to secure the northside thereof by intrenchments, whilst the shipping protects the other party.

As soon as the troops landed they paraded the north shore, and on Wednesday morning made their appearance near Elizabeth town point, but the country being soon alarmed, they retreated, took up the floor of the drawbridge in the saltmeadows and immediately threw up some works.

A sloop of 12 six pounders, belonging to the fleet from Halifax, laying in the Kills near Mr. Decker's ferry, was almost torn to pieces last Wednesday morning, by a party under the command of General Herd, from the opposite shore, with two 18 pounders. The crew soon abandoned the sloop, and we suppose she is rendered unfit for any further service.

We hear two men of war are lying near Amboy in order, tis supposed, to stop all navigation that way.

One of our cruisers lately took on the south side of Long Island, a large Bermudian built sloop laden with entrenching tools, etc. from Halifax, bound to this place. There were on board a number of Boston refugees, among whom was Robert Auchmuty.

The number of Highlanders lately taken prisoners in the different vessels from Scotland, amounts to about 750.

More troops from Connecticut come to New York defense

Hartford. Several regiments of foot ordered to be raised in this colony, together with three regiments of the troop of light horse, have marched for New York to assist in the defense of the capital of that invaded province.

Declaration of independence is read in Phiää.

Philadelphia. Freedom is proclaimed amidst cheers of a great throng, the firing of cannon, and the ringing of church bells.

July 9, 1776 Declarationof independance is now accepted by New Yo

New York. The Declaration of Independence was approved by the New York State Convention.

Pennsylvania Ledger mocks British attack in South Carolina

Philadelphia. Of the vast number of shells which were thrown against Fort Sullivan, near Charlestown, but two fell into it, and only one of them did any execution. The express that brought General Lee's letter, and who may be depended upon, assures us, that the following is an exact list of the loss we sustained by that shell, viz, three ducks, one goose, and a turkey, killed,and one goose so wounded that the cook despaired of its life, and therefore cut off its head.

July 10, 1776

New Yorkers demolish statue of King George

New York. The Declaration of Independence was read at the head of each brigade in the Continental army posted at and near New York, and everywhere received with loud huzzas, and the utmost demonstrations of joy.

The same evening the equestrian statue of George III which Tory pride and folly raised in the year 1776, was by the sons of freedom laid prostrate in the dirt, the just desert of an ungrateful tyrant! The lead wherewith this monument was made, is to be run into bullets, to assimilate with the brain of our infatuated adversaries, who, to gain a pepper-corn, has lost an empire. 'Quos Deus vult perderem prius demenuat.'

(Lord Clare Smith in the House of Commons had declared that a pepper corn in acknowledgement to Britain's right to tax Americans was of more importance than millions without it.)

on our defeat at the Cedars, Canada.

Congressional investigating committee issues full report/

Philadelphia. In Congress. The Committee to whom the cartel between Brigadier General Arnold and Captain Foster and the several papers thereto relating were committed, having had the same under their considerations, and made diligent inquiry into the facts, have agreed to the following reports:

They find that a party of three hundred and ninety continental troops, under the command of Colonel Bedel, was posted at the Cedars, about forty three miles, above Montreal, that they had there formed some works of defense, the greater part of them piqueted lines, the rest a breastwork of earth, with two field pieces mounted.

That on Wednesday, the fifteenth of May, Colonel Bedel received intelligence that a party of the enemy consisting of about six hundred regulars, Canadians, and Indians, were on their way to attack his post, and were then within nine miles of it--That Colonel Bedel thereon set out himself for Montreal to procure a reinforcement, whereupon the command at the Cedars devolved on Major Butterfield.

That on Thursday a reinforcement under the command of Major Sherburne, marched from Montreal for the Cedars, while a larger detachment should be getting ready to proceed thither with Brigadier General Arnold.

That on Friday the 19th the enemy, under the command of Captain Foster, invested the post at the Cedars, and for two days kept up a loose scattering ~~of~~ fire. That Major Butterfield proposed from the very first to surrender the post, and refused repeated solivitations from his officers and men to permit them to sally out on the enemy.

That on Sunday afternoon, a flag being sent in by the enemy, Major Butterfield agreed to surrender the fort and garrison to Captain Foster capitulating with him, (whether verbally or in writing does not appear) that the garrison should not be put into the hands of the Savages, and that their baggage should not be plundered.

That at the time of the surrender, the enemy consisted of about forty regulars, one hundred Canadians, and five hundred

Indians, and had no cannon, the garrison had sustained no injury from the fire, but they having one man wounded, they had twenty rounds of cartridges a man, thirty rounds for one field piece, five for another, half a barrel of gunpowder, fifteen pound of musket ball, and provision sufficient to have lasted them twenty or thirty days. Major Butterfield knew that a reinforcement was on its way, and moreover was so near the main body of the army that he could not doubt of being supported by that.

That immediately on the surrender, the garrison was put into the custody of the savages, who plundered them of their baggage, and even stripped them of their clothes.

That Major Shelburne, having landed on Monday the twentieth at ~~[illegible]~~ Quifczechenes about nine miles from the Cedars, and marched on with his party, consisting of one hundred men, to within four miles thereof, was there attacked by about five hundred of the enemy, that he maintained his ground about an hour, and then being constined to retreat, performed the same in good order, receiving and returning a constant fire for about forty minutes. When the enemy finding means to post advanced parties in such a manner as to intercept their farther retreat, they also were made prisoners of war.

That they were immediately put into the custody of the savages, carried to where Major Butterfield and his party were, and stripped of their baggage and wearing apparel.

That two of them were put to death, that evening, four or five others at different times afterwards, one of whom was of those

who surrendered on capitulation at the Cedars, and was killed on the eighth day after that surrender. That one was first shot, and while retaining life and sensation was roasted, as was related by his companion now in possession of the Savages, who himself saw the fact, and that several others being worn down by fatigue and cruelty, were left exposed in an island naked and perishing with cold and hunger.

That while Major Sherburne was in custody of the enemy, Captain Foster required of him and the other officess to sign a cartel stipulating the exchange of themselves and their men for as many of equal condition of the British troops in our possession. And farther that notwithstanding the exchange, neither themselves, nor their men should ever again bear arms, against the British government. And for the performance of this four hostages were to be delivered, which they, being under the absolute power of the enemy, did sign.

That on Sunday the twenty fifth, the prisoners were carried to Junmgrehener when it was discovered that General Arnold was approaching and make dispositions to attach them.

That Captain Foster, having desired Major Sherburne to attend a flag which he was about to send to General Arnold for confirmation ofthe cartel, carried him into the council of the Indians then sitting, who told him that it was a mercy never before shown in their wars, that they had put to death so few of the

prisoners, but that he must expect and so inform General Arnold that they should certainly kill every man who should thereafter fall into their hands." That Captain Foster joined in desiring that this bloody message should be delivered to General Arnold, and moreover that he should be notified, that if he rejected the cartel, and attacked him, every man of ~~his~~ the prisoners would be put to instant death.

The General Arnold was extremely averse from entering into any agreement, and was at length induced to do it, by no other motive than that of saving the prisoners from cruel and inhuman death, threatened in such terms as left no doubt it was to be perpetrated, and that he did in the end conclude it after several flags received ~~by~~ from Captain Foster, and a relinquishment by him of the unequal article restraining our soldiers from again bearing arms.

That the prisoners, so stipulated, to be given up to the enemy, were not in the possession of General Arnold nor under his direction, but were at that time, distributed through various parts of the continent, under the orders of this House.

That four hostages were accordingly delivered to Captain Foster, who were immediately plundered and stripped by the savages, and on his part were delivered one major, four captains, sixteen subalterms and three hundred and fifty five privates, as specified in a certificate of Captain James Osgood, and others of whom no specifications by their names or number has yet been transmitted, that he ~~retained~~ received twelve Canadians, alleging in his justification, express orders ~~to do so~~ so to do, and that living in a military

government, they were to be considered in a worse light than deserters from his Majesty's armies. These he carried away in irons, but afterwards released; that he permitted the Indians to carry into their countries several other natives of the United States, for purposes unknown.

That during the time of their captivity not half food was allowed the prisoners. They were continually insulted, buffeted and ill-treated by the Savages; and when the first parties of them were carried off from the shore to be delivered to General Arnold balls of mud were fired at them, and at the last parties musket balls.

Whereupon the Congress came to the following resolutions.

(over next page)

Resolved, that all acts, contrary to good faith, the laws of nature, or the custom of civilized nations, donw by the officers and soldiers of his Britannic Majesty, or by foreigners or Savages taken into his service, are to be considered as done by his orders, unless indemnification be made in cases which admit indemnification and in all other cases, unless immediate and effective measures be taken by him or his officers for bringing to condign punishment the authors, abettors, and prepetrators of the act.

Resolved. that the plundering the baggage of the garrison at the Cedars, stripping them of their clothes, and delivering them into the hands of the Savages, was a breach of the capitulation on the part of the enemy, for which indemnification ought to be demanded.

Resolved, that the murder of the prisoners of war was a gross and inhumane violation of the laws of nature and nations; that condign punishment should be inflected on the authors, abettors, and perpetrators of the same; and that for this purpose, it be required that they be delivered into our hands.

Resolved, that the agreement entered into by General Arnold was a mere sponsion on his part, he not being invested with the powers for disposing of prisoners not in his possession, nor under his direction, and that therefore it is subject to be ratified or annulled at the discretion of this House.

Resolved, that the sameful surrender of the post at the Cedars, is chargeable on the commanding officer. That such other of the prisoners as were taken there, showed a willingness and desire to fight the enemy; and that Major Sherburne, and the prisoners taken with him,

though their disparity of numbers was great, fought the enemy bravely for a considerable time, and surrendered at last, but on absolute pecessity; on which considerations, and on which alone, it is resolved that the said sponsion be ratified, and that an euqal number of captives be restored to them as stipulated by the said sponsion.

Resolved, that previous to the delivery of the prisoners to be returned on one part the British Commander in Canada be required to deliver into our hands the authors; abettors,and perpetrators of the horrid murder committed on the prisoners, to suffer such punishment as their crime deserves; and also to make indemnification for the plunder at the Cedars, taken contrary to the faith of capitulation and that, until such delivery and indemnification be made, the said prisoners be not delivered.

Resolved, that if the enemy shall commit any farther violences by putting to death, torturing, or otherwise ill treating the prisoners retained by them, or any of the hostages put into their hands, recourse he had to retaliation, as the sole means of stopping the progress of human butchery; and that for that purpose punishments of the same kind and degreee be inflicted on an equal number of the captives from thence in our possession, till they shall be taught due respect to the violated rights of nations.

Resolved. that a copy of this report be transmitted to the Commander in Chief othe Continental forces, to be by him sent to Generals Howe and Burgoyne.

By Order of the Congress. John Hancock, President

Details of our victory at Gwyn's Island are now reported Williamsburg, Virginia. The following is a particular account of the attack and rout of Lord Dunmore with his piratical crew from Gwyns Island.

We got to the island on the eighth and next morning began a furious attack upon the enemy's shipping camp, and fortifications, from two batteries, one of five, six and nine pounders, the other mounting two eighteen pounders. What force the enemy had were encamped on a point of the island, nearly opposite to our five gun battery, covered by a battery of four embrasures, and a breastwork of considerable extent. Besides this they had two other batteries and a stockade fort higher up the haven, where troops were stationed to prevent our landing. In the haven were three tenders, one a sloop(the Lady Charlotte) mounting six carriage guns, a schooner of two carriage guns, six swivels, and a cohorn, and a pilot boat, badly armed, who had orders from Captain Hammond of the Roebuck, to prevent our boats passing over to the islands and to annoy the rebels by every means in their power.

General Lewis announced his orders for attacking the enemy by putting a match to the first gun, an eighteen pounder, himself, and the Dunmore being then lowest to us, at the distance of only four or five hundred yards, yards, the shot passed through her hull, and did considerable damage. Our five gun battery likewise began playing on the fleet, the enemy's camp and works, and the fire seen became so hot that the Dunmore was obliged to cut her cables and haul off, after receiving ten shot, some of which raked her fore and aft. The Otter lay next in to her and it was expected would have taken her berth, but the first shot we gave her took place supposed between wind and water, and she immediately slipped her cable likewise, and hauled

out on a lateen without firing a gun. By this time all the fleet any way near shore, began to slip their cables, in the utmost confusion, and had the wind set in with a flood tide, must have taken great numbers of them. Our eighteen pounders did great execution from the upper battery, which raked the whole boat fleet, and Captain Denny, who commanded the other battery, soon silenced the enemy at the point, knocking down several tents, which put their camp into great confusion. At half after nine the firing ceased, which was renewed again at twelve, with double vigor, from both batteries and nothing prevented our pushing to the island during the cannonade, but the want of vessels.

The General being determined to cross next day, gave orders for all the small craft to be collected together from the neighboring creeks that night, and two brass field pieces to be carried to a place called Lower Windmill Point, to attack the tender that lay there, and facilitate our crossing. Accordingly in the morning Captain Harrison, who had the direction of those field pieces, began playing upon the tender which he galled so much that the schooner ran up a small creek which made into the island, where the crew abandoned her, and the sloop got aground in reach of our cannon, upon which the General ordered Captain Smith to man the canoes and board her, which was done with alacrity. However before our men came up with her, the crew got into their boat and pushed for the island, but Captain Smith, passing the tender, pursued them so close that before they could reach the shore, he exchanged a few

shot with them, and took part of them prisoners. The enemy's lookouts,perceiving our men close upon the lower part of the island cried out, "The Shirtmen are coming," and scampered off. The pilot boat made no resistance.

General Lewis then ordered two hundred men under Colonel McClanahan, to land in the island, which was performed as expeditiously as our small vessels could admit of. On our arrival we found the enemy had evacuated the place with the greatest precipitation, and were struck with horror at the number of dead bodies, in a state of putrefaction, strewed all the way from the battery to Cherry Point, about two miles in length with a shovel full of earth upon them. others gasping for life, and some had crawled to the water's edge, who could only make known their distress by beckoning out to us. By the small pox and other malignant disorders which have raged on board the fleet for many months past, it is clear they have lost, since their arrival at Gwyn's Island, near five hundred soulds. I myself counted one hundred and thirty graves, or rather holes loosely covered over with earth, close together, many of them large enough to hold a corporal's guard. One in the middle was neatly done up, with turf, and is supposed to contain the remains of the late Lord Gosport. Many were burnt alive in brush huts, which in their confusion had got on fire. In short such a scene of misery, distress and cruelty my eyes never beheld, for which the authors, one may reasonably conclude, never can make atonement in this world.

The enemy had left behind them in their battery a double

fortified nine pounder, great part of their baggage, and several tents and marques, beside the three tenders with their cannon, small arms etc, also the anchors and cables of the Dunmore, Otter and many others to the amount, it is supposed, of twelve hundred pounds. On their leaving the island, they burnt some valuable vessels, which had got aground. Mr. John Gryme's effects on the island should have fallen in to our hands consisting of thirty five Negroes, horses, cattle and furniture. Major Byrd at the approach of our canoes to the island, was huddled into a cart, in a very sick and low condition, it is said, and carried down to Cherry Point where he embarked. The second shot the Dunmore received cut her boatswain and wounded two or three others, and she had scarcely recovered from the shock when a nine pounder from the lower battery entered her quarter, and beat in a large timber, from the splinters of which Lord Dunmore got wounded in the legs, and had all his valuable china smashed about his ears. It is said his Lordship was exceedingly alarmed, and roared out "Good God, that ever I should come to this!" We had our information from one of his people that came ashore after the engagement, who also was taken by our scouts, he likewise said, that many were killed in the fleet, which had sustained some thousand pounds of damage. The Fowey and Roebuck were ships besides which there were one hundred odd sail of large vessels, who took their departure of Thursday afternoon and are supposed to have since gone up Potwomack, to get water, of which they are much in want, and some of them, it is said, have appeared in sight of Alexandria.

July 11, 1776 Indians are attacking in the South

Savannah, Georgia. We have received by several expresses very alarming news about the Indians. The savages have murdered four families on our frontiers, two women were taken prisoners, one of whom afterwards made her escape, and the other had her hands tied behind her, and was naked, all her clothes being taken from her. Some men likewise have been taken and since found means to get away, who say there is a report that these Indians are to be joined by 600 Creeks, and a number of the King's men, who are to march down and cut the settlements off. We are also informed that a great number of people are fled from the ceded lands, and that the Cherokees and Creeks were to join and come down on the frontiers of South Carolina and Georgia. As these things confirm the truth of the ministerial plans discovered by the intercepted letters of Stuart and others, ~~I am~~ we are in hopes the action on Sullivan's Island will defeat the prosecution of their horrid projects and give a different aspect to our affairs.

~~English~~ British are planning to come down Lake Champlain

Philadelphia. By accounts from Canada--we learn that our troops, after the battle at Three Rivers, retreated to the Isle aux Noix but finding that an extreme unhealthy place, were obliged to retire to Crown Point, where they are repairing that old fortification. That the English had got to St. Johns, where they would have to build boats before they could cross the lakes and that we had a schooner of six carriage guns, and four other armed vessels, with which it's hoped, the English will be prevented

crossing the lake.

Capt. Crabtree takes valuable prize

Portsmouth. Was brought into Falmouth by Captain Crabtree a sloop from Anapolis, bound to Halifax, taken off the Grand Passage, laden with lumber, handspikes, butter chees, potatoes, etc.

British tender taken, despite rescue effort

Williamsburg. From Hampton we learn that ~~advice was brought there from~~ a British tender, mounting two carriage and swivel guns, ~~being~~ was drove ashore in a squall of wind, five or six days ago, with eighteen pirates on board, among them Mr. James Parker, late of Norfolk, merchant, who immediately surrendered themselves to a party of troops, and begged for quarters. A boat from another British tender, her consort, attempted to cut her out from the creek where she was secured, but our people perceiving their design, lay in ambush for them, and when high enough, rushed into the waters and fired upon them, killing five of the crew, it was supposed, as three were seen to fall overboard, and two to drop down in the boat, upon which the pirates tacked about, and rowed, faster than they came, to their tender.

New York militia goes to defense of New Jersey

New York. The Militia of this City with a number of companies from the other parts of the province have marched for New Jersey.

New Yorkers admire troops from Connecticut

New York. Several of the new raised regiments of Connecticut troops arrived in town and appear to be as fine body of men as any engaged in the present grand struggle for liberty and independence. Among them the light dragoons, between 5 and 600 who came to town yesterday and paraded on horseback through the city, made a noble and martial appearance, and as this corps are composed of the substantial yeomanry of a sister state, nothing could be more agreeable or animating to all true friends of their country. Some of these worthy soldiers assisted, in their present uniforms, at the first reduction of Louisburg, their 'lank lean cheeks and war worn coats' are viewed with more veneration by these honest countrymen than if they were glittering nabobs from India, or Pashaws with nine tails.

Saltonstall and Whipple are cleared by Congres

Philadelphia. In Congress. Complaints by inferior officers towards Captains Saltonstall and Whipple were heard and dropped today by Congress. The two Captains were ordered back to their commands.

Drunk British soldier taken prisoner

New York. A soldier belonging to one of the regiments on Staten Island, being in liquor, and having wandered from his companions, got upon the meadows near Elizabeth Town Point, which being observed by Colonel Smith, who had the command that day at the Point, he sent over a party of men who took him prisoner.

Counterfeiter is jailed

Williamsburg. Benjamin Woodward, against whom an information was lodged for attempting to counterfeit the paper currency of the American states, was brought to town last Wednesday, with four other persons, suspected to be accomplices, and lodged in the public jail. They were taken in Pennsylvania county, with types and other implements to carry on her wicked and destructive schemes.

July 12, 1776 Enemy fleet sails up Hudson River

New York. The British Admiral Lord Howe, older brother of General William Howe, arrived in Sandy Hook with a large fleet from England. Between one and two o'clock PM two ships hove in sight and joined the fleet at the Watering-Place about an hour after a ship, supposed to be the Phoenix of fifty four guns, a frigate of twenty eight, and three tenders, got under way at Staten Island, and stood up for this city. The army soon took the alarm, and in a few minutes every man was at his station, well provided with all necessaries for a vigorous defense. But as soon as the ships came near Bedlow's Island, they inclined towards the Jersey shore, to avoid our batteries that then began to play upon them from every side of the river, and notwithstanding they must have received considerable damage, they stood their course up Hudson's River, firing several broadsides as they went along, without either killing or wounding any of our people, who on the occasion behaved with uncommon bravery. A strong southerly wind, and the tide of flood, facilitated the ships getting above the batteries near the town, but we hear they were roughly handled about 12 miles up the river, from hence they have laid at Tarrytown about thirty miles up the river, on Saturday evening.

Several shot went through different houses in the town, two into the house of Mr. Verdice Elsworth, at Powlis Hook, three into Captain Clarke's house at Greenwich, one of which went through the front and lodged in a brick wall at the head of Miss Clarke's bed, in her chamber, a second went through the house, and the third

destroyed several trees, before the door, and took its course into the woods. A ball also struck the house of Mr. Daniel Phoenix, and from that took its course to the new dwelling of Mr. Christopher Smith, in the opposite side of the street.

July 13, 1776 Dunmore's fleet sails in and out of Potowmack

Annapolis. Lord Dunmore, with his piratical squadron, having been beat off Gwynn's island, thought proper to move up the bay, and came into the mouth of Potowmack.

Amongst others were the Roebuck, the Fowey, with Governor Eden on board, the Otter, the Dunmore, and a number of tenders. Part of the fleet, after a few day's stay at St. George's island, near the mouth of St. Mary's River, went up Potowmack to get fresh water, of which it is said they were in great want. They burnt the dwelling house of Mr. William Brent, and did other damage on his plantation. After returning gain, they burnt some vessels belonging to their own fleet, and on Friday last took their departure down the bay in two divisions. Several skirmishes happened during the interval of time between their first coming and their departure. We had none killed on our side, and only one man Captain Rezin Beall wounded, who is in a fair way of recovery. The enemy had divers killed, whose bodies were found, and many more wounded. A great number of dead bodies floated on shore of those who died of distress, amongst which were many blacks. The most intelligent of the deserters say, that upwards of one thousand Negroes have died within these six months, they have the small pox and pestilential fever amongst them, which last rages with great violence, particularly amongst the Negroes. It is said the Roebuck is going to New York, and the Tory families some to the West Indies, and some to St. Augustine. No considerable damage hath been done in this province that we hear of, except plundering St. George's island of stock, etc. when they first landed, but on sending down

cannon, and ordering the militia and a few troops there, they became cautious how they approached the shore. The officers and men on duty behaved with great spirit and alacrity, and we hope Lord Dunmore hath taken leave of us, not finding any encouragement to continue to Maryland.

Counterfeiter, previously reported arrested, escaped

Williamsburg. We learn from Binwiddie county, that a party who were in pursuit of a certain Benjamin Woodward, suspected of counterfeiting our paper currency, have found all his types, copper plates and other utensils, but that the villian had escaped under cover of the woods.

Schooner arrives from West Indies with arms

Salem. Arrived here from Guadaloupe, the Schooner Polly, David McCloud Master, who had brought one hundred casks of powder, about seventy small arms, a number of carriage and swivel guns, a quantity of brimstone, shot, flints, etc.

British officers break parole

Providence. Some officers of the British fleet who had broke their parole of honor, by going beyond the limits prescribed by the General Congress were brought into town and secured.

Declaration of Independence is read in Rhode Island

Newport. The General Assembly of Rhode Island being then sitting at the State House in this town at twelve o'clock, the brigade stationed here under the command of the Colonels William Richmond and Christopher Lippitt, Esqs, marched from headquarters, and drew up in two columns, on each side the parade, before the

State House door, his Honor the Governor and members of assembly then marched through and received the compliments of the brigade. A resolve of the assembly concurring with the Congress in the declaration of independence, the declaration itself was then read, next thirteen cannon were discharged at Fort Liberty, the brigade then drew up and fired in thirteen divisions, from east to west, agreeable to the number and situation of the United States. The declaration was received with joy and applause by all ranks. The whole was conducted with great solemnity and decorum.

July 14, 1776 Tory uprising quelled in Connecticut

Hartford. About 150 Tories in the Nine Partners and places adjacent, rose in a body, fell upon the sons of liberty there, disarmed them and took possession of the Committee Chamber, but were quelled by a party of near 3000 men from the western parts of this colony, and about 20 of their number taken and confined in prison.

French protect American vessels in West Indies

Hispaniola. The French here are determined not to let any American vessels be seized within their limits, by English ships.

July 15, 1776 Debtors are given amnesty

New York. In pursuance of the declaration of independence, a general goal (jail) delivery, with respect to the debtors took place here.

~~New York. Captain Johnson in a small privateer from~~ Boston has taken and carried into Cape Ann, two ships, one of them a large three decker with 400 hogsheads of sugar, 30 bags of cotton, and a large quantity of pimento, also with several ladies passengers. The other is a ship from Antigua bound for Boston.

Spain beats England to Dutch loan

Hispaniola

~~A letter from New London~~. A vessel arrived from Hispaniola, brings the intelligence that the British court applied to the States of Holland for the loan of several millions, for which the States demanded ten percent, which the ambassador was not empowered to give, until leave was first had from England, and while he was waiting for this, Spain steps in, takes the money and pays the ten percent. Afterwards the English ambassador applied, but it was too late.

July 16, 1776 British raid of Crown Point is reported

Exeter, New Hampshire. Mr. Blunt, who went to the northern army, with a number of letters, returned to this town. He left Crown Point the 10th instant to which place the American army had retreated, with all the artillery, baggage, sick etc., and proposed to make a stand at Ticonderoga, fifteen miles this side. The ministerial army had got down to St. Johns 120 miles from Crown Point. The army consists, it is said, of only five or six thousand regulars, but how many Canadians and Indians is very uncertain, from this body they lately sent a few Indians and took the miller at Crown Point, and carried him to St. Johns, who has not since returned. This is the first visit they have dared to make since the retreat of the American army.

Williamsburg. Of the vast number of shells which were thrown against Fort Sullivan, near Charlestown, in the recent battle but two fell into it, and only one of them did any execution. Our correspondent, who may be depended upon, assures us, that the following is an exact list of the loss we sustained by that shell: three ducks, one goose, and a turkey killed, and one goose so wounded that the cook despaired of its life and therefore cut off its head.

Williamsburg. Benjamin Woodward against whom an information was lodged for attempting to counterfeit the paper currency of the American states, was brought to town, with four other persons, suspected to be accomplices, and lodged in the public jail.

July 17, 1776

Washington rejects truce offers

New York.

Two flags of truce have been sent to his Excellency General George Washington, but we hear they have both been rejected.

Two British men of war have made their way within eight miles of Fort Montgomery, where we hope they will meet with due chastisement.

We hear from Poughkeepsie that 32 people attempting to disaffect the friends of liberty from our common cause are in the Ridgefield jail now.

Bostonians find abandoned mortar

Boston. A fifth iron mortar was found off the end of the Honorable John Hancock's wharf.

July 18, 1776 Damage to HMS Rose reported by escaped pri oner

New York. A prisoner escaped, by swimming from on board the Rose, British man of war, in the rain. He is a native of Boston, well known to many officers and men from thence, was last summer in the service. He was taken by the Rose in his passage from Ipswich to the West Indies, so that his information respecting these worse-than-free booters, may be relied on. viz that by the conversation of the Rose's crew, he found that they expected on coming up to be joined by five hundred Tories, who were to have driven down with them, plenty of stock, of all sorts, that they had been informed great quantities of provision, and goods of all kinds were deposited in the stores at Peek's Kill, which they were to have destroyed, and then proceeding through the High lands, to Poughkeepsie, were they to destroy our men of war on the stocks. That they appeared to be highly mortified at finding everything in a situation so different from what they had been made to expect. That the Rose had on board one hundred and twenty men,(boys included) and twenty marines. That in passing New York, the greatest damage they received was from the batteries at Powles Hook ferry and the Blue Bell. That the cook, and another man had each a leg, and another had his thigh taken off by a cannon ball. That a twelve pound shot lodged in the head of the foremast, just below the hounds, one went through and through the quarter, one into the quarter gallery and cabin, and three were cut out just above her black streak. Her shrouds and rigging were much hurt. The Phoenix's damage he was unacquainted with, and being a prisoner, it could not be expected they should inform him. He only heard accidentally that she had a twelve pound shot in her bowsprit.

Indian attack is repulsed

Fincastle, Virginia. A large party of Indians attacked the Wataoga fort, in which were one hundred and fifty men. They fired on a great number of women who went out at daybreak to milk their cows, and chased them into the fort, but providentially did not kill one of them. They fired briefly on the fort til eight o'clock, but without effect, and then retired with considerable loss, as was supposed from the quantity of blood found; but they returned to the attack, and were beseiging the fort as a messenger, who was shipped out, informed our men on Holstein. A detachment was sent to relieve the fort, and it was expected they would do so on Monday. A party of one hundred men of the militia fell in with a party of forty Cherokees, who were fifty miles on this side the island, at one of the deserted plantations, killed five, took one prisoner, and twenty guns. It is worthy of our observation, that in these several skirmishes with the Indians, in all of which we did more execution than in some of the principal actions of the last war, we lost not a man. No one can reflect on this, and many other circumstances which have attended the present war with the British tyrant, without acknowledging that he sees evident proofs of the divine interposition in our favor.

British Captain seizes fishing fleet

Boston. The British Captain Mowat, in the Canceaux, has taken all the fishing boats which lay within his reach, to the number of twenty sail, at the eastward of Casco Bay. It is supposed he has carried them to Halifax.

July 19, 1776 Anchors left by Dunmore are found at Gwyn's Island

Williamsburg. Captain Denny has taken up before Gwyns Island, 11 anchors and 10 cables, which were left by Lord Dunmore's fugitive squadrons. One of the anchors is of about 1300 weight with a new cable 120 fathoms long, supposed to have belonged to the Otter.

We learn also that Lord Dunmore, in attempting to get possession of St. George's Island, in Maryland, was drove off with the loss of 11 men killed, and two tenders, which the Marylanders set fire to, after taking out what was valuable in them, and sending back to his Lordship, by way of present, the stinking black prisoners they had taken.

Williamsburg. From Hampton we learn, that advice was brought there from the Eastern Shore of a tender mounting two carriages and twelve swivel guns, being drove ashore in a squall of wind, five or six days ago, with eighteen pirates on board, among them Mr. James Parker, late of Norfolk, merchant, who immediately surrendered themselves to a party of our troops, and begged for quarters. A boat from another tender, her consort, attempted to cut her out from the creek where she was secured, but our people, perceiving their design, lay in ambush for them, and when night enough, rushed into the water and fired upon them, killing five of the crew, it is supposed, as three were seen to fall overboard, and two to drop down in the boat, upon which the pirates tacked about, and rowed faster than they came, to their tender.

July 20, 1776 British officer apologizes to Gen. Washington

Philadelphia. Colonel Patterson, adjutant general of the British Army under General Howe, regretted to General Washington any difficulties that the letters to him may have caused. It was deemed consistent with propriety and founded on precedents of like measures by ambassadors, where disputes of rank had arisen, and that General Washington had himself last summer addressed a letter to General Howe and to the Honorable William Howe, that they did not mean to derogate the rank or respect deemed his person and character in the highest esteem, that the direction implied everything that ought to follow. He then produced a letter which he observed was the same letter which had been sent. Washington declined to accept a letter addressed to him as a private person when it was a public letter and should be addressed to him as such. He then told him the intention of the letter was to despise the recent acts of cruelty in Canada. Washington replied that he knew barbarity was not truly part of the British nature. Patterson hoped Washington was too just to draw public inferences from the misbehavior of some private individuals, that bad men were to be found in every class and society, that such behavior was considered as a dishonor to the British army.

Washington later maintained we were only defending what we felt were our indisputable rights. Colonel Patterson said that would open a wide field for argument. He then expressed his apprehension that adherence to forms was likely to obstruct business of the greatest moment and concern.

Washington said he had no authority without Congress to make exhcange of prisoners.

Colonel Patterson behaved with the greatest attention and politeness during the whole business, expressed strong acknowledgements that the usual ceremony of blinding his eyes had been dispensed with. Washington invited him to a small collation which had been prepared for him which he politely refused due to a late breakfast, and impatience to return to General Howe. He was safely conducted to his own boat which waited for him about four miles from the city.

Made public by the order of John Hancock

Indians attack again in Virginia

Williamsburg, Virginia. The Pennsylvania Evening Post gives the following account of a battle fought by a party of the Fincastle militia with a number of Cherokee and Creek Indians, near the Great Island of Holstein.

Our scouts returned and informed that they had discovered a large number of Indians making into the settlement upon which information the few men stationed at Eaton's Fort, within the boundary line, completed a breast work sufficiently strong with what men were there, to have defended themselves against a considerable number. Expresses were sent to the different stations, and such a number of men were collected that next morning we turned out with one hundred and seventy in search of an enemy. We marched in two divisions with flankers on each wing and scouts before, who soon discovered upwards of twenty Indians and fired upon them. They immediately returned the fire, but our men rushing on them with such violence obliged them to make a precipitate retreat. They left ten bundles and a good deal of plunder, which our men secured. We have great reason to believe several of them were wounded in this skirmish. Though this skirmish happened

on a ground very disadvantageous to pursue, yet it was with the greatest difficulty they could be restrained. A council was held, and it was judged adviseable to return, as we had reason to believe a party greatly superior to ours was not far off. We had not marched more than a mile in good order when our rear was attacked by upwards of one hundred of the enemy. Our men sustained the attack with great firmness, until a line was formed. The enemy endeavored to surround us, but were prevented by the vigilance of Captain James Shelby, who with his division, took possession of an eminence, and bravely defended it, which prevented their design. Our line extended upwards of six hundred yards, and after disputing the ground some time, we found thirteen of them dead on the field, and have reason to believe that many more might have been found, if we had time to have searched for them as there were great quantities of blood found every where they retreated. Though the action was short, it is believed the execution was great. The enemy attacked us with their usual fury, but our militia fought with a calmness and intrepidity that would have done honor to the veterans of any country. The behavior of our scouts, not only on their duty, but in the action, deserves the greatest applause. Besides a deal of plunder, we took a great many guns. We did not lose a man, and had only four slightly wounded. The soldiers are in high spirits, and long for another engagement on equal terms. Though we have every reason to believe that the enemy are pouring in upon us in numbers superior to our own, yet we hope for a reinforcement from our friends.

Indians in North are to remain neutral

Providence. A missionary who arrived here from the Indian Country, brought advices that the chiefs of the Six Nations, in a grand council, had determined to call in their young men immediately, and to remain neuter during the present conflict between Great Britain and the American states.

July 21, 1776

Hopkins takes ship laden with food

Boston. A ship of 200 tons, commanded by James Arnout, was sent into this harbor by Commodore Hopkins in the George ship of war, taken in Nantasket Road. She has on board sixteen hundred barrels of pork, four hundred firkins of butter, some oatmeal.

Spy dressed as woman is arrested

New York. A servant man of Mr. Charles McEvers was taken up yesterday at Long Island ferry, dressed in woman's clothes. He had a letter directed to Mr. Alexander Wallace. He was carried before the general and has since been ordered to jail under a strong guard.

Providence. Lieutenant Calcott came to Newport with a flag from on board the Merlin ship of war, and delivered a letter and declaration from Lord Viscount Howe.

July 22, 1776 Reinforcements expected by Sullivan at Ticonderoga

New York. General Sullivan with the whole northern armies has left Crown Point and is retreated to Ticonderoga, (165 miles from Albany and 265 from this city) a very advantageous spot, and where it is believed he will in a short time be sufficiently reinforced and fortified to withstand any attack that may be made by our cruel unrelenting enemies, who are fortifying St. Johns and building some vessels.

British men of war prevented from landing at Tappan

New York. Five of the men of war's boats endeavored to land on Tappan meadows, where about 15 inhabitants of the neighborhood concealed themselves in a fishing hut, on the edge of the meadows, which they had barricaded up, and lay there until three of the boats were within shot of them, when they fired, loaded again, and fired eleven rounds, and then heard a great shrieking and crying amongst the enemy.

Whaler escapes capture by British

New York. The whaling sloop Gilbert and John, Captain Jagger, returned here from a twelve month voyage, but narrowly escaped being taken off Block Island by two frigates. He is last from Guadaloupe, where he sold his cargo of about 250 barrels of oil, there took in molasses, and has now on board 12,000 gallons, and thirty hogsheads in another vessel that sailed in company with him bound to the eastward.

Congres establishes rules for prisoner exchange

Philadelphia. In Congress--resolved that several commanders in chief in each department be directed to exchange any officer in the British service, now a prisoner in any of these states, of or under

the rank of Colonel Ethan Allen.

Resolved also, that the persons taken prisoners with Colonel Ethan Allen be put upon the same footing as those in the continental service, and exchanged accordingly.

July 23, 1776

Patriot taken by British at Bunker Hill escapes

Boston. Came into town from Halifax, Lieutenant Scott of Petersborough, in New Hampshire government, who was wounded and taken prisoner at the memorable battle of Bunker Hill, the 17 of June, 1775, and has been a prisoner ever since. He informs that he with thirteen others broke jail about five weeks ago, and betook themselves to the woods where they separated, that Captain Martindale and his first and second lieutenants, John Brown rifleman, Leonard Briggs of Ware, and himself arrived at Truro, at the head of Cobbecut River, after a travel of three days, where they procured a boat and got to the eastward, that Richard Carpenter, formerly a barber in this town, Philip Johnson Peack, David Kemp of Groton, and Corporal Cruse of Virginia, and two others took the road to Windsor, where they were apprehended and confined in irons, that Benjamin Wilson of Billerica, one of the Bunker Hill prisoners died lately in jail, and that he left Master James Lovel still confined in health and high spirits.

Non-Associators criticized for inactivity

Philadelphia. In convention--The Associators in this state on the requisition of the Honorable Continental Congress--have freely and bravely gone into the field, for the defense of the common liberties of America, while the non-Associators remain at home in peace and security, without affording, by personal service or otherwise, the just and necessary assistance they owe to the state for their protection, this convention resolves that it will take the most effectual measure to tender the burthen and expense of the inhabitants of this state, just and equal.

Philadelphia. Just published and now selling by Robert Bell in Third Street, price ten shillings, six sketches on the history of man containing the progress of men as individuals. The diversity of men and languages, of food and population, of property, the origin and progress of commerce, the origin and progress of arts, the progress of the female sex, with an appendix concerning the propogation of animals, and the care of their offspring. By Henry Home, Lord Kaims, author of elements of criticism.

July 24, 1776

British fleet is raiding towns on Hudson River

New York. The British men of war that lately went up the North River, lie in Haverstraw Bay. Their tenders drifted about and last Saturday one of them went into the fort, upon which our people fired a thirty two pounder at her, which went through her quarters when she tacked about and stood down the river. Some time after they landed a party of their men at Peekskill, set fire to a wheat field, and burned the house of Mr. John Lilly. A number of the militia were soon collected, who attacked and killed seven of them, without any loss on our side.

Skirmishes occur off Jersey shore

New York. Our troops stationed on Bergen Point, give the ministerial fleet and army some uneasiness by firing at the tenders, boats. It so galls and provokes them, that they return the fire with great fury, but have not done the least damage to our people.

Last Lord's day, a great many shot were heard in this city from Bergen Point. The occasion was this--a barge from the fleet full of men landed on the Point, but were opposed and driven off with precipitation by our troops. A smart fire ensued from a tender for a considerable time, without doing any injury. By two deserters, we are informed that a captain and two privateers were killed on board their barge.

Massachusetts acclaims Declaration of Independence

Boston. The declaration of the Congress for independency was proclaimed in the state house in Boston, amidst the acclamation of thousands who assembled on the occasion.

 "American Independence" is published

Philadelphia. Just reprinted from London and selling by Robert Bell (publisher)--

"American independence, the interest and Glory of Great Britain," containing arguments which prove that not only in taxation but in trade, manufacturers and government, the colonies are entitled to an entire independency on the British legislature, and that it can only be by a formal declaration of these rights and forming thereupon a friendly league with them, that the true and lasting welfare of both countries can be promoted.

July 25, 1776 British fleet threatens Hudson River forts

New York. From Fort Montgomery about sixty eight miles up the North River comes the following intelligence.

The British piratical rovers up that river were then below Verplank's Point.

Their intentions were unknown, but it plainly appeared that their design in coming up was entirely frustrated. We were so well prepared to receive them, especially at the Fort. They were well watched on both sides of the river, and one of their tenders, having got aground, would have been destroyed by our people on shore, had it not been for want of boats. A continual fire of musquetry was kept upon her till she was relieved by the assistance of the Rose man of war. Captain Wallace, the noted pirate, with about thirty men landed at Haverstraw, where they set fire to the house of Captain Lilly, a noted Tory, who received a specimen of the treatment they as well as others may expect from their newly adopted friends. The British act of parliament makes no distinction between such and the freemen of America.

We have at this post one thousand men well equipped, seven hundred at Fort Constitution, and several thousand at Peek's Kill, on both sides of the river.

British officer is polite, and confused

Elizabeth Town. Yesterday nine of our rifle men crossed the river, in order to harass some regulars who were throwing up a kind of breast work on a bridge for their Sentries, who kept firing on our men for some time, without doing any execution, til one of the brave fellows went within a few yards of the enemy, and

desired them to surrender. At that instant he received a ball through his head, which killed him on the spot. The Colonel sent over a flag of truce, to the commanding officer, on the island, desiring leave to bring off his man, which the officer very politely agreed to, and let them take man, rifle, and all his coutrements. After talking a little he inquired what news was stirring. On being told that General Clinton had been defeated at Carolina, he bore it very well, but on being acquainted that Lord Dunmore had been driven from Gwyn's Island, he looked very much confused.

Epidemic of smallpox rages in Bo ton

Boston. The small pox is now so widespread in and about that there are no less then 10,000 persons in and near Boston down with that disorder, to prevent the spreading of which no more newspapers will be printed there for some time, but the post has favored us with the following agreeable advices.

That a ship from Ireland with 1700 barrels of pork, 400 firkins of butter, 400 casks of oats, and 100 casks of oatmeal, was taken and carried into Boston last week.

A letter of marque from Salem, took a sloop and ship from Jamaica, the sloop loaded with dry goods and salt, bound for Halifax, the ship bound to Europe with 370 hogsheads of sugar, 140 puncheons of rum, 55 pipes of Madeira wine, 27 cannon, and 6 pounders, and a large quantity of wrought plate. They were carried into Sheepscut.

Dunmore's los es at Potowmack are reported

Maryland. It is reported that Lord Dunmore's miscreants, since they were driven from Gwyn's Island have received a severe drubbing

on the Maryland shores of Potowmack, where they landed in hopes of procuring some necessaries, but were disappointed, and forced away after losing ten or more privates of the 14th regiment, who were killed, that the shipping are gone up the river, all in mourning, supposed for some of the leaders of the gang, or perhaps the magnanimous Chief himself. Two tenders, it is also said, were burnt, and their crews taken, about fifty in all. Our gallies and other armed vessels will soon be ready to meet them.

July 26, 1776 Shpts are exchanged at Perth Amboy,N.J.

Perth Amboy, New Jersey. There was a smart cannonading here with the enemy, occasioned by four or five shallops coming down the sound. The General directed a small battery mounting two iron four pounders to fire at them, this brought on a heavy firing from the enemy's battery, from an eminence that overlooked ours.

Captain Moulder with his two field pieces was ordered to the shore but being encamped at some distance, before he could come up, the shallops had all nearly past. However, he began well directed fire, and though they had got to a considerable distance hulled one of them.

When the vessels were passed, the firing ceased on both sides. We had the misfortune of losing one of the second battalion, and having another wounded. One was shot right through the heart, the ball a four pounder, entering his left side, and coming out of his breast. This morning he was buried with the honors of war. There was also a horse killed which was standing in a wagon near the general's door. The enemy appear to have some very heavy field pieces. They sent some 12 pound shot among us. It is surprising they did not do more execution, as there were so many of our people on the bank opposite to them without the least covering.

The enemy appears to be very strong, and are constantly reinforcing, as our troops come in. They are throwing up breast works along the shore to prevent our landing.

An editorial in a New York newspaper

New York. From the New York Gazette--no creatures suck the teats of their dams longer than they can draw milk from them, or can provide themselves with better food, nor will any country continue their

subjection to another, only because their great grandmothers were acquainted. This is the course of human affairs, and all wise states will always have it before their eyes.

July 27, 1776 American privateers take another valuable prize

Boston. Yesterday was carried into Marblehead, taken by the privateers Hancock, Captain Ticker, and the Franklin, Captain Skimmer, the ship Peggy, commanded by James Kennedy, bound from Halifax for New York. She is one of the fleet of twenty four sail who came out with transports, under convoy of two men of war, the Renown of fifty and the Fiora of twenty guns, having on board a number of troops. The cargo included seventy five dozen hose, one hundred eighty yards Irish sheeting, two boxes cord, seventy four dozen porter, eighty three dozen strong beer, three hundred and eleven tierces salted beef and six barrels herring and some cash. Also, there were on board Tory ladies and Gentlemen.

The privateer Warren, Captain Burk, engaged with another of the fleet, and near taking her, when by some accident she had three of her men blew up, and seven wounded and which obliged them to put into port.

Arnold is building a fleet to defend L ke Champlain

New York. A letter from Scarborough mentions General Arnold's being at that place to superintend the vessels building there, and that it was hoped in a few days he would have a sufficient fleet to command the lake.

Consititu̇on is published by Connecticut

Hartford. Connecticut published its Constitution today.

July 28, 1776 American gallies attempt ambu,h of British ships in/ Hudson River

New York. Extract of a letter--One of our gallies, mounting one 32 pounder, and the other a New London gally, mounting two 12 pounders in her stern, and two in her bow, went up the North River to Spikendivle, or Kingsbridge Creek with an intent to lay there till the ships came down the river.

Troops at Ticonderoga enheartened by Independence

Ticonderoga. Immediately after divine worship, the Declaration of Independence was read by Colonel St. Clair, and having said, "God save the free independent states of America", the army manifested their joy with three cheers. It was remarkably pleasing to see the spirits of the soldiers so raised after all their calamities. The language of every man's countenance was," Now we are a people! We have a name among the states of the world."

More gunpowder arrives from France

New York. A vessel arrived from Marseilles, with a large quantity of lead, powder, and arms. By a gentleman who came in here we are informed that the British Parliament was prorogued on the 25 of May to some time in August, and that the Irish Parliament had been dissolved.

British spend heavily to pursue the war

London. It is positively affirmed that the transport service, extraordinaries of the army, and contingent expense attending the American campaign will amount in the course of the year 1776 to five millions and a half, which is more than they amounted to in any one of Great Britain's most successful campaigns.

American privateers strike again

Newport. The privateer Montgomery, Captain Buckley, of Providence went in the east side of Rhode Island and carried with him a fine large snow, Captain Gooding, from Antigua, loaded with three hundred hogsheads of sugar. We hear Captain Buckley in company with another privateer, had taken five other considerable prizes, viz, three ships, one snow, and one brig, which were but about one day's sail behind him, two of which with the other privateer, were to make some port to the eastward.

July 29, 1776

American forces reported ready to retake St. Johns

Ticonderoga. A correspondent writes--We have received a supply of fresh beef, which has been of infinite service, having recovered almost all our sick, and put the whole army into high spirits. Our marine force consists of eight gondolas and four schooners. We are going from here down the lake, in order to retake St. Johns which Burgoyne has possession of at present. As we have numbers, and our army are determined, I do not entertain the least doubt of success.

Captured brigs arrive in Rhode Island

Newport. Two brigs went up the east side of the island, one of which is an Antiguan man, loaded with sugar, rum and cotton, sent in by the privateer Diamond, Captain Chace, but had been taken before by Captain Newman of Philadelphia, and was taken by Captain Chace, because she had no copy of Captain Newman's commission on board. The other brig is a whaleman, which is released.

The Andrew Doria's prize ship, which recently ran ashore near Watch Hill, being a very old vessel, soon went to pieces; most of the sugar is lost, but all the rum, except two or three hogsheads, the sails rigging, cables, anchors, etc., saved.

Loss of Andrew Doria's prize is confirmed

New York. This moment arrived a sloop, Captain Hawkins, from Rhode Island, which gives the disagreeable news of Captain Biddle's losing his prize, the ship Nathaniel and Elizabeth, Captain Hoar from Jamaica, at Fisher's Island reed, just entering the Sound.

Captain Hawkins says he saw the ship on the Iron Rocks last Friday, and saw one vessel take up an iron bound cask, which he

took to be a hogshead of rum. There was a great number of people on board and several vessels along side, and her masts were cut away. He does not know if any of the cargo is saved or not.

Maryland celebrates Declaration of Independence

Baltimore. The Declaration of Independence was read amidst great celebration and pomp. An effigy of the King was carried through town, cannon set off, and there were great joys. The patriots then burnt the effigy, thus may it be for all tyrants.

New York. Five of the British men of war's boats endeavored to land on Tappan Meadows.

July 30, 1776 We prepare for British attack at Lake Champlain

Independent Point, New York. Three schooners are gone down to the lake and a sloop and six or eight gondolas will follow in a few days. Two hundred carpenters are employed in building more, after the Delaware mould. We have plenty of large guns, and hope soon to have a formidable fleet upon Lake Champlain. Carleton and Burgoyne are at St. Johns, likewise busy in preparing a fleet.

A Canadian officer of the militia, arrived yesterday from St. Francois, 12 miles below Sorel, his property being seized by Carleton. He says that Carleton and Burgoyne have not yet ordered the Canadians to arms, but have noticed them to be ready in September, to come with them over the lakes, as they intend to drive the rebels out of the country, and winter in Albany. This may be their intention, but they will find it impracticable. They will have to pass, in the first place, the gondolas. Secondly, Crown Point, and thirdly the narrows below Independence Point and Ticonderoga. Our fortifications are much stronger than when the French had this post, when with only three thousand French and Canadians, they made such a terrible havock of the British army in 1759.

Hospital needs nurses, and herbs

New York. General Hospital, wanted immediately a number of women who can be recommended for their honesty, to act in the capacity of nurses, and faithful men for the same purpose. Any who incline entering the services in this way, will meet with good encouragement by making application to the quarter master of the hospital at King's College, New York. Wanted also for the use of said hospital,

a large quantity of dry herbs for baths, fomentations, etc., particularly baum, hysop, wormwood and mallows, for which a good price will be given, and also old linen for the use of sick and wounded soldiery. The good people of the neighboring towns, and even those who live more remotely from the city, by carefully collecting and curing quantities of useful herbs, will greatly promote the good of the army, and considerably benefit themselves. From principles of benevolence and humanity, it is presumed, that many will attend to this matter which is really of consequence, and cheerfully contribute to the relief of their sick and wounded brethren, though from any pecuniary consideration they might neglect it as having the appearance of small importance. Those who have already collected any considerable parcel of herbs or rags, may find a ready sale by applying at the above mentioned place to the General Hospital. Thomas Carnes, quarter master.

July 31, 1776

Preparation are made for battle in Florida

Charlestown, South Carolina. Extract of a letter.

We are just now setting off for the burning sands of Georgia, an expedition being planned against part of East Florida. Two brothers of Governor Wright, with many others, are entrenched, and have posted themselves on St. Mary's river, which divides Florida from Georgia; besides a great number of Negros they have of their own, others flock to them. Colonel Somer's regiment, from North Carolina and Major White of the same state, with two companies of volunteers, have marched, and Colonel Muhlenburg's regiment only waits for wagons to transport their baggage.

More gunpowder arrives from West Indies

New London. Arrived the sloop Betsey, Captain Benjamin Bigelow, in fifteen days from St. Eustatia with a large quantity of duck, six tons of powder, some small arms, etc. Mr. William Turner, of this island, came passenger in the above vessel, and informs that a large number of troops have lately arrived at Martinico, and 9,000 at Porterica, that the people at Eustatia are very stanch for the states.

Day of fasting declared

New York. The Reverend Synod, appointed the second Thursday in August to be observed as a day of humiliation, fasting and prayer, to Almighty God, by the congregations under his care, on account of the present oppressed and bleeding state of our country.

August 1, 1776 Trouble with Indians in North Carolina

Hilsborough, North Carolina. The Indians have committed some outrages on the frontiers of this province, have put to death many individuals, and murdered several families, but we hope their career is, before this time, stopped by some thousands of militia, that were marching against them.

Six vessels taken by Capt, White

Falmouth, Casco Bay. Captain White arrived here in a privateer having 40 men on board, he has taken 6 prizes, the particulars of their several cargos are as follows, Fanny, rum. Betsy, rum, Harliquin, sugar, rum. Polly, rum, sugar. Anna Mariah, sugar, wine, cotton. He also took a seventy ton vessel with three prisoners.

Valuable vessel taken by Capt. Craig

Philadelphia. The Congress privateer, Captain Craig, has taken and carried into Egg Harbor, a brig from Nevis. This prize is said to be worth near twenty thousand pounds.

Deserters reported

Philadelphia. Eight pounds reward--Deserted last night from Captain Samuel Smith's company of Smallwood's first Maryland battalion, the following soldiers.

Richard Basket, country born, six feet three inches high, remarkably strong made, his limbs very large and walks very slowly. He had on and took with him, a scabby castor hat, blue hunting shirt, oznabrug trousers with five buttons at the ankle, a short light colored double breasted waistcoat, a good pair of shoes, and is about twenty five years of age.

Richard Rigan, also country born, five feet ten inches high, about twenty six years of age. He had on and took with him, an old felt hat, a brown coat and red waistcoat, more than half worn, a pair of leather breeches, shirts, stockings and shoes, and is a cooper by trade.

August 2, 1776 Reprisal engages British warship in West Indies

St. Eustatia. We have just received an account from Martinico that the Reprisal, Captain Weeks, belonging to the Congress, had an engagement with the Sharp sloop of war, of sixteen guns, belonging to his Britannic Majesty, within sight of St. Pierre's, wherein the former had greatly the advantage, and acquired much honor amongst the French, many of whom were spectators of the battle. The American vessel afterwards going into the harbor of St. Pierre's, the Captain of the Sharp demanded the American rebel, as he termed it, but the French General refused to deliver him up. A French frigate is just arrived from Old France, with despatches as late as the 22nd of June, to the governors of the different islands, ordering them to protect and assist the Americans vessels as far as possible, and to be prepared to defend themselves if necessary. From this it appears a French war is not far off.

Settlements in South Carolina are raided by Indians

South Carolina. Cherokee and Creek Indians encamped 700 strong at Carters Valley from whence they sent one party against the settlements, burning crops, houses, fences, fields of wheat, turning droves of horse into the corn fields. Upwards of 1000 head of horses have been drove off, and a great number of cattle. They come in to settlements which have penetrated 100 miles on this side of the Big island. They shot down sheep and hogs, killed and scalped eighteen men, one or two women, several children. The settlers have collected themselves together in certain places and asserted themselves. The fort at Watzaugah beseiged by 400 savages

is now released. The Indians abandoned it at the approach of Colonel Russell with 300 men. One man says he saw 100 men killed by the Creeks in one day.

August 3, 1776

A transport ship of Clinton's fleet is captured

Charlestown, South Carolina. General Clinton, with his troops, escorted by Sir Peter Parker's shattered squadron, departed from this town. They had been moving off for several days, and were supposed to be bound part for Virginia, the rest farther northward. In going over Charlestown Bar a row battery, that was sent to annoy them, made prize of a brig transport, having on board a whole company of the Royal Highland Emigrants, the Captain only escaped. The same day a boat from General Clinton's ship was taken with nine sailors in her.

American gondolas attack British warships at New York

New York. A heavy cannonade was heard, supposed to be an engagement between our gondolas and the men of war, that lately went up the North River, and ~~we have been favored with~~ the following particulars are reported by a gentleman who was an eye witness to the attack...

At about a quarter after one, all the gondolas came up with the shipping, and the Lady Washington, being the foremost, fired a shot, which hulled the Rose, who was then under way, and obliged her to come to an anchor. The Phoenix and Rose then began a very heavy fire, which lasted for an hour and twenty minutes, and was smartly returned. Four shot were seen to strike the shipping, but the smoke very soon prevented us from saying with authority, what farther execution was done. During the action we had one man killed, one with a leg shot off, and another badly wounded. The Spitfire received thirteen shot in her hull. The Lady Washington unfortunately split her gun, and one other of the gondolas received considerable

damage which occasioned them to retire until they could refit. The Spitfire--after the Lady Washington, who had got cut of the line of battle when she first fired, and in consequence of orders had fallen back--was the foremost during the engagement. The distance was about half a mile.

New Jersey penalizes those who refuse to fight

Trenton, New Jersey. In convention in State of New Jersey--it was resolved Whereas the arrival of the enemy in the neighborhood of this state, the burden is become much greater to the militia thereof, numbers being obliged to leave their families, and to march to the defense of their country, so that the former ordinances for regulating the militia are become inadequate, it being highly just and equitable, proportionally, to increase the sums formerly directed to be paid by those who refuse to bear arms for the protection of the state, and also to inflict greater punishments on those who although they have been associated, or been directed to be enrolled for the defense of their country, neglect to attend on days appointed for mustering and are unwilling at this time of great danger, to step forth with their countrymen to oppose the enemies of freedom. It is therefore resolved and ordained that all able bodied persons, between the ages of sixteen and fifty years, who on any account refuse to bear arms, do pay as an equivalent for their actual services the sum of twenty shilling proclamation money monthly, and every month, during the present alarming time and until proper measures shall be taken by the future legislature, to render the burden and expense equal to the inhabitants of this state, and

that all persons directed to be enrolled by former ordinances, both officers and privates, who neglect to attend on days of muster, do pay double the sums directed by an ordinance of the late Congress, bearing date the twenty eight day of October 1775, all which sums shall be recovered and applied by the officers of the Militia without regard to religious denominations, any thing in said ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding.

Indians reported about to attack Virginia

Fincastle, Virginia. A man left the Cherokee nation on Monday night the 18th of July says that the part of the nation called the Overaille were then preparing to go to war against the frontiers of Virginia, having purchased to the amount of 100 skins or thereabouts, for moccasins. They were also beating flour for a march, and making other warlike preparations. Their number from a calculation made by the Raven warriors amounts to about six hundred warriors.

He thinks we may expect a general attack every hour. They propose to take away Negros, horses, etc. and to kill all kinds of cattle, sheep etc. for which purpose they are well stocked with bows and arrows, also to destroy all corn, burn houses. And he also heard that the valley towns were a part of them set off, but that they had sent a runner to stop them till all were ready to start. He farther relates that Alexander Cameron informed them that he concluded to send Captain Nathaniel Guest, William Fausin etc. and the deponent with the Indians, till they came near to the Nanachukey, then the Indians were to stop, and Guest and the other whites were to

go to see if there were any king's men amongst the inhabitants and if they found any, they were to take them off to the Indians, or have a white signal in their hands, or otherwise to distinguish them. When this was done, they were to fall on the inhabitants, and kill and drive all they possibly could. That on the 6th instant, in the night he heard two prisoners were brought in about midnight, but the deponent saw only one. That the within Williams saw one scalp brought by a party of the Indians, with a prisoner, but from accounts they had five scalps. He also says he heard the prisoner examined by Cameron who he gave a very imperfect account being very much cast down. He farther says, that the Cherokees had received the war belt from the Shawanese, Mongo, Tanwah, and Delaware nations, to strike the white people. That fifteen of the said nations were lately in the Cherokee towns, and that few of the Cherokees gave the said Shawanese etc. four scalps of white men, which they carried away with them. The said Shawanese and Mingoes informed the Cherokees that they then were at peace with every other nation, that the French were to supply them with ammunition, and that they wanted the Cherokees to join them to strike the white people on the frontiers, which the Cherokees have agreed to, and the deponent further says that before he left the nation a number of the Cherokees of the lower towns were gone on to fall on the frontiers of South Carolina and Georgia, and further south.

Reprisal in W.I. cruise takes two prizes

Philadelphia. It is reported that Captain Weeks of the Reprisal man of war, in the Continental service, has taken two vessels, one a

ship bound from Grenada to London, the other a sloop.

Specialists in tin work are needed

New Jersey. Tin men wanted. Very good encouragement will be given to fifteen or twenty persons who understand the working of flat irons into kettles, if they apply to Samuel Ogden, Morris County, New Jersey.

More gunpowder and arms arrive in Virginia

Williamsburg, Virginia. We have just received at a certain port in this colony a supply of gunpowder of 450 barrels and near 200 stand of arms.

August 4, 1776 British Gen. Carleton says a few leaders deceive the patriots

Quebec. The British commander, General Carleton, issued the following declaration today--The commanding officers of corps, will take especial care every one under their command be informed, that letters or messages from rebels, traitors in arms, against the King, rioters, disturbers of the public peace, plunderers, robbers, assassins, or murderers, are on no occasion to be admitted, that should emissaries from such lawless men again presume to approach the army, whether under the name of flag of trucemen or ambassadors, except when, they come to implore the King's mercy, their persons shall be immediately seized and committed to close confinement, in order to be proceeded against, as the law directs; their papers and letters, for whomever, even for the Commander in chief are to be delivered to the Provost Martial that, unread, and unopened, they may be burned by the hands of the common hangman; at the same time the Commander in Chief expects that neither the assassination of Brigadier General Gordon , nor the late notorious breach of faith, in resolving not to return the troops and Canadians taken at St. John's, in exchange for those rebels who fell into the hands of the Savages at the Cedars and Quinchin, purchased from them at a great price, and restored to their country on those express conditions, be imputed to the Provincials at large, but to a few wicked and designing men, who first deceived, then step by step led the credulous multitude to the brink of ruin, afterwards usurped authority over them, established a despotic tyranny not to be borne, and now, wantonly and foolishly endeavor to provoke the spilling the blood of our unhappy countrymen of this continent, in hopes of covering their own guilt, or confirming their tyranny, by the general destruction of their country. Let their crimes

pursue these faithless, bloody-minded men, who assert that black is white and white black, it belongs to Britons to distinguish themselves not less by their humanity than their valor; it belongs to the King's troops to save the blood of his deluded subjects, whose greatest fault perhaps is having been deceived by such men to their own destruction; it belongs to the crown, it is the duty of all faithful servants of the crown, to rescue from oppression, and restore to liberty, the once happy, free, and loyal people of this continent.

All prisoners from the rebellious provinces, who choose to return home, are to hold themselves in readiness to embark at a short notice; the Commissary, Mr. Murray, shall ~~reserve~~ transports ~~destined~~ for them, and see that wholesome provisions, necessary clothing, with all possible convenience for their passage, be prepared for those unfortunate men; they are to look on their respective provinces as their prison, and there remain, till farther enlarged, or summoned to appear before the Commander in Chief of this province, or any other Commander in Chief for his Majesty, for the time being, which summons they shall obey.

General Howe will regulate their place of landing.

E. Foy, Deputy Adjutant General. ~~A true copy~~.

August 5, 1776

More ships join British fleet in New York

New York. A number of vessels have come in from sea, and joined the British ministerial fleet at Staten Island, but whether their cargoes are English, Scotch, Irish, Hessian, or Hanoverian, we know not at present.

Troops are reported deserting Gen. Carleton

Ticonderoga. Extract of a letter--I came over here to conduct a Canadian from St. Francois to headquarters. He assures me that the Indians in general have resolved not to join in the war. Things here begin to wear a different face. The greatest harmony reigns among the General Officers. Order is taking place in the army, and the men in high spirits. Great numbers are coming in from New England to Skenesborough. It is reported that General Carleton has used the Canadians who favored us very barbarously, which has provoked them very much. Some deserters are come over and some of the foreign troops are said to be desirous of deserting.

Watertown, Massachusetts. We hear that Captain Joseph White of Salem, in conjunction with a Providence privateer, has taken five rich Jamaican men, two of which are arrived at Falmouth, east, and one at Providence.

Only minors will be allowed on N.J. ferries without pass

New York. The public are desired to notice that no person male or female, above the age of fourteen years will be permitted to pass any of the ferries in the state of New Jersey, without a proper pass from the place they leave.

American fleet on Lake Champlain

Lake Champlain. A list of our fleet, now ready for action, with the number of carriage and swivel guns for each, the names of the vessels, and number of men to each:

Royal Savage, Captain Wyncoop, twelve carriage guns, nine, six and four pounders, ten swivels, and fifty men, Enterprize, Captain Dixon, 12 carfiage guns, nine, six and four pounders, ten swivels, and fifty men. Revenge, Captain Laman, ten carriage guns, four and two pounders, ten swivels, and thirty five men. Four gondolas, Mansfield, Simmons, Sumner, and Ustins, Captains; each gondola carries three guns, one twelve and two nine pounders. Eight swivels, and forty five men, three row gallies on a new construction, just ready to launch, and ten gondolas more will soon be ready. (I cannot but think, adds the writer of this epistle, we shall be able, at all events, to maintain our superiority on Lake Champlain.)

August 6, 1776

Spanish fleet reported in West Indies

Newport. A French sloop arrived at the east side of the island, in twenty two days from Hispaniola, the master of which reports that a fleet of sixteen sail of Spanish ships of the line lately arrived at the Havanna, and that it was thought a French war would be declared by this time.

Friendly ships exchange shots in error

Newport. Arrived here Captain Rome and his ship which was taken sixteen days before by the privateer Diamond, Captain Chace, of Providence, her cargo consists of three hundred and ten hogsheads of sugar, two hundred barrels of oil. This same day a bark arrived at Dartmouth, loaded with rum, sugar, cannon, etc. These two ships fell in with one another on Monday night, and exchanged several shot before they discovered they were friends.

Mass. Tory is exiled

Worcester. Richard Green, late of Boston, merchant, a noted Tory, went through this town into exile, agreeable to his sentence.

August 7, 1776

New American frigate Washington is launched

Philadelphia. Was launched the third Continental frigate built here, called the Washington.

Lord Howe reported ready to attack New York

New York. Two deserters came from the fleet, who say that Lord Howe is preparing for an attack, that the field pieces were put on board a vessel, and it was supposed the forces would land on Long Island, while the ships attacked the city.

American privateer takes three-decker

Newburyport. Was carried into Portsmouth, by the Hancock privateer, which sailed from Philadelphia, a large three decked ship, named the Reward, of between five and six hundred tons burthen. She was a twenty gun ship last war, in the service of the British King. She was in Tortola, bound to London and had on board between ten and eleven hundred hogsheads of sugar, eighty six hogsheads of rum, twelve bales of cottom, nine cannon, and some brass. There were on board said ship, a number of turtle directed to Lord North with his name on the shell, the best of which Captain Wingate Newman, master of the privateer, is determined to send to the Honorable John Hancock.

Burgoyne reported heading for Quebec

St. Johns, Canada. It is reported that Burgoyne has retreated from St. Johns and is on his way to Quebec.

August 8, 1776 Associators should serve properly, says officer

Philadelphia. The commanding officer of the detachment of Associators left for the defense of the city, for the last time, gives notice to the persons who have entered into the several companies, and do not attend their duty, that they will be severly dealt with, unless they immediately alter their conduct. It is extremely hard upon their fellow citizens, some of whom are obliged to do double duty, owing to the negligence of others in not attending roll calling, and thereby escaping put upon guard. Those who have entered their names, as many have seem to have done, to save appearance, will not be surprised if they see a catalogue of delinquents published, besides feeling the inconveniences of a rigid execution of the article by which we are bound. The example of one is constantly an argument for the delinquency of the other, and therefore every individual neglecting his duty, does a double injury. Calling upon his people over whom command should be exercised, in this way, may perhaps be unsoldierly, but as they are his fellow citizens, who from hard necessity have become soldiers, it will relieve the officer from the least anxiety, after the Associators being thus reminded of their duty, when with the concurrence and assistance of the other officers and privates, who have virtue enough to attend to the service, and support authority, he executes his, as he ever has, and means in future to do, without distinction of persons. It is too late now to talk of those who let their motives be inability, cowardice, or an aversion to our cause, have refused to enter into the service of their country. Leave them to be properly dealt with, as they certainly will be, by our

Convention or Legislature. Those who refuse on this account, afford consequences to people who deserve none, and give the tardiness or baseness double force. Every one has it in his election whether or not he will become a soldier. If he does not, he subjects himself to the disgrace and penalties attending the situation; but when he has engaged in this capacity, he is bound to an adherence to discipline.

Don't retreat, urges patriot Grandma

Elizabeth town, New Jersey. We hear that on a late alarm there, when an immediate attack of the British regulars was expected, and every man was capable of bearing arms was summoned to defend it, there were three or four young men, brothers, going out from one house, when an elderly lady, mother, or grandmother, to the young men, who without betraying the least signs of timidity, had with a resolute calmness, encouraged and assisted them to arm, when they were ready to go, and just setting out, addressed them thus."My children, I have a few words to say to you, you are going out, in a just cause, to fight for the rights and liberties of your country, you have my blessing and prayers, that God will protect and assist you, but if you fall, His will be done. Let me beg of you, my children, that if you fall, it may be like men, and that your wounds may not be in your back parts."

Penn. battalions ordered to New Jersey

Phildelphia. The Congress having resolved that the commanding officers of the several battalions of militia now in this city, be ordered instantly to march to Amboy in New Jersey and that in case any of the militia want arms, that they be left under a proper

officer until they can be provided with arms, and those that have arms march without any farther delay. And that the Board of War be directed to see this resolution carried into immediate execution.

Fast Day sermon is published

Philadelphia. Just published and printed and sold by R. Aitken, printer and bookseller opposite the London Coffee House, Front street, price one shilling and sixpence--

The Dominion of Providence over the passions of Man, in a sermon, preached at Princeton on the 16 and 17 of May being a general fast appointed by the Congress through the United Colonies. To which is added an address to the natives of Scotland residing in America, by John Witherspoon. President of the college of New Jersey.

August 9, 1776 Congress instructs regarding taverns and rations

Philadelphia. Congress resolved that no tavern keepers or others take out licences from the officers of the late government, of this state.

That two thousand copies of the particulars of the rations allowed for the Flying Camp, be printed and distributed among the men.

The ration is one pound of beef, or three-fourths pound of pork or one pound of salt fish per day, one pound of bread or flour per day, three pints of peas or vegetable equivalent at one dollar per bushel for peas or beans. One pint of milk per man per day, or at the rate of 1.73 of a dollar. One half pint of rice or one pint of Indian meal per man per day, or nine gallons of molasses per company of one hundred men per week. Three pounds of candles to one hundred men per week for guards. Twenty four pounds of salt or eight pounds of hard soap for one hundred men per week.

Light Infantry company is asked to assemble

Woodbridge, New Jersey. At the desire, and with the approbation of the Light Infantry company of the Third Battalion, Captain Henry requests all the absent of that company, who are not employed in the public service, to repair to Woodbridge in eight days from this date. Should any gentleman refuse or neglect to comply with this requisition, at a time when the public service demans the personal exertion of every individual, he can by no means expect to join the company at any future time.

Interesting assortment of goods for sale

Philadelphia. Coxe, Furman and Coxe have for sale, West Indian rum, muscovado sugar, molasses, cocoa, chocolate, almond,

a few pieces of India mankins and ginghams, tambour muslins, women's dogskin tanned mitts, anchorsk cotton, and a few boxes of Keyser's pills, just imported from France, and warranted genuine.

August 10, 1776 Georgians celebrate Declaration of Independence

Savannah. A declaration being received from the Honorable John Hancock Esq., by which it appeared that the Continental Congress in the name and by the authority of their constituents, had declared, that the United Colonies of North America, are and of right ought to be Free and Independent states, and absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, the Council met and read the Declaration. They then proceeded to the square before the assembly House and read it likewise to the great concouse of people when the Grenadier and Light Infantry companies fired a general volley. After this they proceeded in the following procession to Liberty Poles. Here they were met by the Georgia battalion, which after the reading of the Declaration discharged their field pieces, and fired in platoons. Upon this they proceeded to the battery at the Trustees Gardens, where the Delcaration was read for the last time, and the cannon of the battery discharged. His Excellency and Council, Colonel Lechlan McIntosh, and the gentlemen with the militia, dined under the cedar trees, and cheerfully drank to the United, Free, and Independent states of America. In the evening the town was illuminated and there was exhibited a very solemn funeral procession attended by the Grenadier and Light Infantry companies and other militia with their drums muffled, and fifes and a great number of people than ever appeared on any occasion before in this province when George the Third was interred before the court house in the following manner...

"For as much as George the Third of Great Britain, hath most flagrantly violated his coronation oath and trampled upon the constitutions of our country, and the sacred rights of mankind, we therefore commit his political existence to the ground, corruption to corruption, tyranny to the grave, and oppression to eternal infamy, in sure and certain hope that he will never obtain a resurrection to rule again over these United States of America, but my friends and fellow citizens, let us not be sorry, as men without hope, for tyrants that thus depart, rather let us remember America is free and independent, that she is and will be, with the blessing of the Almighty, great among the nations of the earth. Let this encourage us in well doing to fight for our rights and privileges, for our wives and children, for all that is near and dear to us. May God give us his blessing, and let all the people say Amen."

French fleet rumored heading for America

Cape Francois. American vessels have ports open to them here and are protected. French ships are fitting out at Brest, of twenty sail of the line, twelve frigates, and fourteen thousand land forces and it is presumed their destination is for this place. As France is all in favor of our cause, this armament should cause us no uneasiness.

A report appears on Indian activities

Philadelphia. George Morgan Esq. arrived in this city from the westward. Whilst at one of the Shawanese towns on the Sciote he received intelligence of three Six Nation warriors having passed by

there with two prisoners they had taken sixteen days before, from Virginia, Mr. Morgan followed and got to their town before them, prevented the usual punishment of their prisoners on their entry, and insisted on their being immediately delivered up to him, unless they intended this breach of the peace as an open declaration of war. All the headmen of the Six Nations, Shawanese, and Delawares, who were called together on this occasion, behaved in a very friendly manner, and joined with Mr. Morgan in his demand made to the warriors, who soon complied therewith, and were promised forgiveness on condition of future good behavior. These warriors told Mr. Morgan they had done no other damage, except they killed a young man, they shot at when they took these prisoners, but he made his escape though they believed the ball entered his breast. The prisoners are twin sons of Andrew McConnel, late of Pennsylvania, who removed last winter to Leestown on Kentucky river, and were taken within a few hundred yards of the town. Mr. Morgan brought them to Pittsburg and delivered them to their uncle in Westmoreland county in this province. Since then, a small party of Shawanese, in returning from the Cherokee country, killed and scalped two persons near the Big Bone Lick; they were pursued by a few of the neighbors who killed and scalped two of the Indians, the others escaped. This breach is also likely to be settled to the satisfaction of all parties, as the Headman had expressed great concern at the conduct of their foolish young people, and promise to do all in their power to preserve our friendship. A treaty to be held at

Pittsburg with the western Indians the beginning of October, when it is hoped they will listen to and follow their true interest, as they have promised to do.

The Chiefs of the Six Nations met in Council at Onandago on the 18th, 19th, 20th of June last, promised Mr. Morgan to call all their warriors from Canada, and to listen to the Thirteen United States of America, being convinced that their advice was for their true interest, as they have no business to join either side in the present war between Britain and America. They accordingly sent off a party for the above purpose the 22nd of June, and another party to Niagara to insist on Colonel Butler's bringing all their people safe back immediately. They likewise sent off two large belts to the lake and other western Indians, to inform them of their determination, and to desire they will sit still.

~~Phila.~~ R.I. raises more troops

Philadelphia. The Convention raises troops for Jersey and the Flying Camp.

4/12

August 11, 1776 British warships patrol Hudson

New York. We have been informed that the Phoenix and Rose were on their way down the river, about five miles above Fort Washington. Seven gallies, well managed are gone to meet them. ~~We hope our next will give a more full and satisfactory account of those sturdy robbers.~~

Ticonderoga expects British attack

~~By express from~~ Ticonderoga, NY, ~~we are informed that General Burgoyne had retreated from all his posts in Canada except St. Johns, where he had left a body of men. The precipitate retreat is said to be occasioned by the arrival of a large fleet on the lakes, consisting of sloops, a schooner, gondolas and boats, are in good order, and make a respectable appearance.~~ The army was sickly some time ago, but recover fast and are in good spirits. An attack from the piratical fleet and murderous army of Great Britain is hourly expected here.

S&T

American brigand privateer capture more prize vessels

Boston. Was sent into Boston by the Brigantine Enterprise, and sloop Beaver, two letters of marque, bound from New York to St. Eustatia, a ship from Grenada, bound to London, laden with sugar, rum, cotton, etc. etc.

The Tyrannicide privateer, Captain Fish, belonging to, and in the service of this state, sent into Salem the Brigadier St. John, with a cargo of one hundred and twenty hogsheads of molasses, eighty one casks of rum, forty barrels of flour, ten barrels of pork, and four hundred and twenty pounds lawful money in cash.

Extraordinary medicines advertised for sale

Philadelphia. An advertisement in the Pennsylvania Evening Post--For sale, Royal Balsam, which is good to cure all wounds, bruises,

inward or outward, pains in the back, breast or limbs, and stops bleeding at the nose, or inwardly. Syrup of Balsam, which helps coughs, colds, pains, and stitches about the breast and side. Syrup and powder for the bloody flux, which wonderfully answers its title. Tincture Amara, or Bitter Tincture, this strengthens the stomach, stops vomiting and sickness at the stomach, cures the cholic and jaundice, and kills worms in children. Essence of tar; this is universally good in all fevers and lowness of spirits, pleasures, pains of the side and breast, rheumatism, scurvy, and is a great sweetener of the blood. A powder and ointment to cure the piles. Vuinerary Linament, which is a healer of all kinds of sores, especially those of the mouth and throat.

August 12, 1776 Americans attack British warships, are forced to withdraw

New York. Letter from an American naval officer--

Yesterday at one o'clock PM the row gallies attacked the Phoenix and the Rose off Tarrytown. The Lady Washington fired the first gun on our side, in answer to one received from the Phoenix. The Washington Galley, on board of which the Commodore's Flag was hoisted, then came up within grapeshot of the ships, and singly sustained their whole fire for above a quarter of an hour before any other of our vessels took a shot from her, the tide wasting them more time than the pilots expected, to the eastern shore, and the Lady Washington falling back to take her station in the line according to orders. The Spitfire advanced in a line with the Washington and with her behaved well. We have as hot a fire as perhaps ever was known for an hour and a half. The Washington, on which I was on board during the whole engagement, had the ledgings of her bow guns knocked away, which prevented our working them, and was other ways considerably damaged, being thirteen times hulled, had three shot in her waist, etc. The Lady Washington after firing the Phoenix six times had her bow and only gun, a thirty two pounder, on which we placed much dependence, split seven inches, and her gun tackles and 2 carried away. The Spitfire was hulled several times, and received one shot between wind and water, which not having been quickly discovered, resulted in her making much water. The rest of the gallies received considerable damage in their rigging, sails and spars. Under these circumstances, our Commodore Colonel Tupper, thought it prudent to withdraw after manfully fighting a much superior force for two hours. Never did men behave with more firm determined spirit. One wounded cries: I am a dying man, revenge my blood, my

boys, and carry me alongside my gun that I may lie there." We were so preserved by a generous providence, that in all our gallies which consisted of six, we had but two men killed and fourteen wounded, two of which we thought dangerous. We hope to have another time at these pirates, before they leave our river, which God prosper.

Our troops are well prepared to defend Champlain Albany, New York. The more thinking sort of people do not credit the news of the French fleet being in St. Lawrence river, they rather think it is a story given out by Burgoyne, to put our people off their guard. This day we have advice that there are two thousand Indians with General Schyuler.

One of our men, returned from the lake (Champlain), who was ordered there by Congress to inspect into the state of our army, says that our army consists of five thousand effective men, hearty and in high spirits, that they have built complete fortifications, have sixty pieces of cannon, from nine to eighteen pounders, mounted, that in a fortnight they will have upwards of a hundred pieces mounted. They have now in the lake nine gondolas, two row gallies, and three schooners, all complete and fit for service, that we shall have twenty five or so of those vessels in the lakes, which will carry sixty pieces of cannon, one hundred and seventeen swivel guns, and about five hundred private men. That there were two officers sent out as spies some time since, one of whom returned while he was there, who reports that the enemy had about two thousand men at St. Johns, one thousand at Isle aux Noix, and thousand or fifteen hundred at Chambice. That they had about thirty batteaus in the lake, and no other vessels, nor any preparation for building more, that it appeared very clear to him that the enemy did not

mean to attack us, but expected to be attacked, for that they are only preparing for defense by enlarging their forts, and electing new ones. General Gates says that it would give him the least concern if the enemy were to come with twenty thousand men.

French troops reported at Martinico

Philadelphia. The brig Polly, Captain Mermahue, in twenty four days from Martinico, who has brought a quantity of powder, sulphur, some arms and coffee, has spoke the brig Mermaid, Captain Sawyer, from New York, out twenty two days. None of the enemy's ships were at the Capes when the above vessel came in. Five thousand French troops were at Martinico when Captain Mermahue left it.

British reported planning attack on New Hampshire

Halifax, Nova Scotia. We have undoubted authority that two thousand Highlanders under the convoy of three frigates, and three armed schooners, on a new construction for drawing the least quantity of water, have been despatched by Lord Howe up the Bay of Fundy, to penetrate by that side into the New Hampshire government, and that Colonel McClane with three thousand of the lower country militia of Canada, and six hundred Indians are on their full march to join that body of Highlanders, at the head of the river St. Johns and to cooperate with them.

August 14, 1776 Dunmore's fleet reported now at Staten Island

New York. About sixty vesselscame in from the sea, and anchored at Staten Island. They are supposed to be Lord Dunmore's fleet from Virginia.

Canadian Indians refuse to join British

~~A gentleman just arrived from~~ Ticonderoga, N.Y. ~~informs us, that~~ our troops have learned that General Burgoyne has endeavored to persuade some tribes of the Canadian Indians to join the British army, but they absolutely refused, and were determined not to take any part in the present unhappy dispute; that should a reconciliation between Great Britain and America take place at any future period, they were certain of being the greatest sufferers and therefore chose to remain neuter.

Prices for slaves plummet in Virginia

Williamsburg, Va. The Virginia Gazette says that ~~Baltimore.~~ "Without a speedy restoration of peace in America the African trade must prove a very ruinous commerce, as we can have no supply of provisions in the West Indies, and the southern Continental colonies will not purchase any Negros. In the account of the sale of one hundred and eighty slaves, the prices are as low as eighteen pounds, nine pounds, six pounds, and even down to two pounds seventeen shillings and sixpence.

August 15, 1776 Virginia troops head for New York

Williamsburg. The first Virginia Regiment in the Continental service, marched from this city for New York.

Unusual hurricane in Mass. is described

Newburyport, Massachusetts. The following is a ~~more full and just~~ account of the distressing hurricane on the 15 of August (from the Essex Journal)--

A little past three PM several clouds running extraordinarily quickly and low were seen to meet over Northborough, a black fulginous vapor instantly ascended from the point of coalescence, much resembling the quickest motion of fine smoke disgorged from the chimney of an air furnace. Every spectator was, for a moment, at a loss to determine which of the clouds would maintain its course. Such a scene as those contending parents of a hurricane acted for a few seconds must have moved the calmest philosopher with admiration. Clouds of different appearances flew in almost every direction to that vortex as a common center, and were immediately wrapped in blackness. The whole hemisphere was greatly agitated, and appeared rushing to the war of elements.

Every beholder was interested and felt anxious for the result til the clouds from the east gave way, and then such a picture of devastation was drawn throughout several towns as that part of heaven previously seemed to meditate. The first effects of it were felt in the easterly part of Northborough, but its violence very much increased as it moved easterly, near the line between Marlborough and Southboro, through Framingham, to the eastward of that we have not heard of it. The vein of land which suffered by it, is not, in general, more than thirty or forty rods wide, in some

places much less. Where its force was collected within the smallest compass its violence was almost incredible.

A barn in Marlborough was hurled from its foundation, the timber thrown in various ways, and much of its content lost, and more carried a great distance. Shingles which nails stuck were sided in the bodies of trees as if driven with a hammer.

The thicket and most flourishing groves seemed to feed its rage than to check its violence, The toughest saplins, the closest pasture white oaks twisted off and woven into impentrable thickets.

In the pasture of Lieutenant Fay of Southborough, the sword was broken and much of it blown off. Stones weighing several pounds were removed from the place, a number of yards.

August 16, 1776

Deserters are given a warning

Philadelphia. In Convention--Deserters have eight days to rejoin their camps, otherwise they will be caught and tried. There is a reward of three pounds for their apprehension.

Notwithstanding the directive to try and search for deserters, it is not the intention of this convention to detain the militia unnecessarily from home, the Associators are therefore assured that as soon as the Flying Camp is formed, and the public safety will admit, they shall be permitted to return home.

A great quantity of lead is mined

Williamsburg. From undoubted authority we assure that 15,000 weight of pure lead have been got from our mines in the back country, which after being cast into bullets, we hope, will be unerringly directed against our enemies.

August 17, 1776 Washington proposes method of prisoner exchange

New York. General Washington addressed this letter to Lord Viscount Howe, Admiral and Commander in Chief of the British Navy in America:

My Lord, Being authorized by Congress, as their commanders in every department are, to negotiate an exchange of prisoners, and presuming, as well from the nature of your Lordships command, as the information General Howe has been pleased to honor me with, that the exchange in the naval line will be subject to your Lordship's direction, I beg leave to propose the following mode of exchange for your Lordship's considerations, viz officers for those of equal rank, and sailors for sailors.

If the above proposal should be agreeable to your Lordship, I am charged in a particular manner to exchange any officer belonging to the British navy, in our hands, and of equal rank, for Lieutenant Josiah, who was lately made prisoner in a ship retaken by the Cerberus frigate.

The reason, my Lord, of my being charged to propose the exchange of Lieutenant Josiah in preference to that of any other officer, is that, regardless of his rank as an officer, he has not only been subjected to the duties of a common seaman, but has experienced many other marks of indignity.

As a different line of conduct, my Lord, has been ever observed towards the officers of your navy, who have fallen into our hands, it becomes not only a matter of duty but of right in me to mention this to your Lordship, to the end that an inquiry may be made into the case above referred to.

From your Lordship's character for humanity, I am led to presume, that the hardships imposed on Lieutenant Josiah are without either your knowledge or concurrence, and therefore most readily hope, that upon this representation, your lordship will enjoin all officers under your command to pay such regard to their treatment of those that may fall into their hands, as their different ranks and situations may require, and such as your Lordship would wish to see continued by us to those who already are in our power, or who may hereafter by the chance of war be subjected to it. I have the honor to be my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient servant, George Washington.

Trouble with Indians reported in Virginia

Fincastle, Virginia. By an express from Colonel Russell we learn that on his approaching the Watuga fort with the men under his command, the Indians retired precipitately; however not without losing one man, and having two wounded by a party that pursued them. The fort was thus fortunately relieved after a fortnight's close siege, the greater part of which time our people lived on parched corn. There were supposed to be five hundred women and children in this little fort, who fled there for shelter on hearing the Indians were marching into that part of the country. We lost not a man in this long affair, except four or five who ventured out to drive in some cows, who were found scalped.

The number of Indians concerned in the different ravages lately committed in Fincastle amount to six or seven hundred, some say eight hundred, and yet sudden as their attack was, they murdered in all their butchering parties but eighteen persons, and wounded six, whilst our men killed, in the skirmishes with them, twenty six on the spot (as many were carried off dead) took one prisoner, and

wounded at least as many as they killed. As the Cherokees have been so completely checked in their career and, we understand from Fort Pitt, that the northern Indians are not disposed to attack us in that quarter, and have only engaged not to suffer us to march through their country against Detroit, we may hope that there is not much to be dreaded from the terrible combination of Indians we have been threatened with by our enemies.

Americans are determined to fight for their freedom

Philadelphia. In Convention--Agreeable to the order of the day the Convention took into consideration the Resolution of Congress declaring the United Colonies Free and Independent States, and thereupon resolved unanimously, that this Convention will maintain the Freedom and Independency of the United States with their lives and fortunes.

August 18, 1776 American fire ships attack HMS Phoenix

New York. Six regiments of militia from the state of Connecticut have arrived in town. They are an exceeding fine body of men, well equipped and well disciplined.

Friday last arrived here two companies of the third battalion of the Philadelphia Associators commanded by the Captains Semple and Henry. It is said, the whole battalion are every hour expected to arrive.

Last Friday two fire ships, commanded by Captains Fosdyke and Thomas (gentlemen volunteers of rank in the army of the United States) proceeded up the North River with intent to give a suitable warning to those piratical gentry that have infested it since the 12 of July last. The night was dark and favorable to the design, and the enemy did not perceive our vessels til they were near aboard of them. Captain Fosdyke grappled the Phoenix, but the fire not communicating so soon as was expected, she disentangled herself in about twenty minutes after sustaining considerable damage in her rigging. Captain Thomas fell on board one of the tenders which was soon consumed, and we are truly sorry to inform the public this intrepid commander is yet missing. This gallant enterprise struck so great a panic upon the enemy that they thought it prudent to quit their station; and yet yesterday, took the advantage of a fresh wind at Southeast attended with considerable rain, they ran the gauntlet through a great number of well directed shot from our batteries in and near this city, which undoubtably must have damaged them much. Our gallies played smartly, and followed the ships a considerable distance into the bay. The enemy's fire seemed to be mostly directed upon the city, as the tops of the houses were crowded with spectators, but very little damage was done to the buildings, nor

any lives lost upon the occasion.

Saturday a flag of truce was sent from the ministerial fleet and met in the bay by one of our barges, but we could not learn its import.

Troops from all quarters have been daily arriving to our assistance since our first, and yesterday afternoon fourteen sail of transports, full of hearty troops arrived here from the eastward, so that we can with great truth assert, that we have now an army in and about this city of at least twenty thousand men.

The saga of American Gen. Lee vs British Gen. Clinton

Williamsburg. A correspondent wishes some able hand would undertake to describe General Lee's march from Boston to Charlestown, and would point out the remarkable circumstances of his meeting General Clinton at New York the day he arrived there, of his finding him in Hampton road, when he came to Virginia, of Clinton's leaving Cape Fear just after his arrival in North Carolina, and of his unluckily meeting at Fort Sullivan. The world must have a high opinion of General Lee's activity and vigilance, when they read of his march of more than eleven hundred miles, and of the circumstances attending it throughout, and Clinton himself must look on General Lee as his evil genius, thus haunting him at last at Philippi.

Cape Francois merchants will trade with colonies

Savannah. A vessel is just arrived from Cape Francois loaded with gunpowder, arms, rum and sugar and brings a letter to the president from a principal house there, informing him that they have

permission to trade with us, and offering to supply anything that is wanted.

The Raven, Stanhope, Sphynx, Reed, are now at Cockspur, and receive all Negros that run away and get to them, whom they send to the West Indies for articles of supply.

France and Spain reported at war with Portugal

Portsmouth, New Hampshire. By Captain Ladd, who arrived here in eighteen days from Cape Nichola Mole, we are informed, that the fleet of sugar ships was to sail the second of August from Jamaica, under convoy of one twenty gun ship, that a French ship convoyed him through the windward passage, and informed him that France and Spain had declared war against Portugal.

London learns of British troops taking of Staten Island

London. The ministry received intelligence of British General Howe's landing on Staten Island. Orders were sent out that he should immediately leave that place and if his brother had joined him that they should sail together to Philadelphia. However it is more then probable a decisive stroke will be struck before they can possibly reach the army.

Williamsburg, Virginia. From undoubted authority we can assure the public that fifteen thousand weight of pure lead have been got from our mines in the back country, which after being cast into bullets, we hope will be unerringly directed against our enemies.

August 19, 1776

Howe agrees with Washington on prisoners exchange

New York. From the Eagle off Staten Island, the British Admiral Howe concurs with Washington's proposition for exchange of prisoners, (see Aug 1.) He has no information concerning Josiah as the Cerberus is absent. But the matter is to be inquired into. He wrote:

"Principles and conduct for the true distinction of rank amongst men, yet without a competent habit in the manners of the world, they are two liable to meet with unmerited disregard. But insult and indignities to persons of whatever rank, who are become parties in these unhappy disputes, cannot be justified, and are as much disapproved of by every officer under my command, as they can never cease to be by me."

Despite hostile attacks N.Y.Indians promise neutrality

Albany. General Schuyler is returned from the German flats, where he had to feed and satisfy near fifteen hundred Indians. They promise a strict neutrality. Some scalps have been retaken near Oneida Lake. A scouting party of ours were attacked by a party of Indians, three killed and scalped, two wounded and escaped, and fell in with some of the Indians that had been at the treaty who brought them safe to Fort Stanwix.

New York. A gentleman arrived here from Ticonderoga who informs us that General Burgoyne has endeavored to persuade some tribes of the Canadian Indians to join the British army, but they absolutely refused, and were determined not to take part in the present unhappy dispute, that should a reconciliation between Great Britain and America take place at any future date, they were certain of being the greatest sufferers, therefore chose to remain neuter.

Role of Phila. Associators is defended

Philadelphia. In Council of Safety. Information ~~being~~ is given that the guards of this city are weakly manned, and that the duty has fallen heavy upon a few, in consequence of the neglect of some Associators to enroll themselves in the companies stationed here by order of General Roberdeau, agreeable to the recommendations of the late Committee of Safety, and that uneasiness have arisen amongst those who have done the duty of guards, from a misapprehension of the proper authority to be exercised by the commanding officer. The council, having made inquiry into the matter, are of the opinion that the Captain of the guard has acted in the line of his duty, and has duly discharged the part of an active and prudent officer. And to prevent any future complaint arising from the causes aforesaid, resolved that every Associator belonging to this city and liberties, capable of doing duty who has not marched to camp in New Jersey and who neglects to enroll himself in some of the four companies of guards and to attend service in his turn, shall be deemed a non-Associator, and be subject to the dues and penalties thereof.

That Associators on duty as guards in this city are members of the Continental service entitled to the same pay, subject to the same rules and regulations.

Privateer takes four prizes

Boston. The privateer sloop Broome, Captain William Nott commander, belonging to New Haven, arrived at Dartmouth from a cruise, and has taken four valuable prizes, viz...

August 3 latitude 32.25 and longitude 59.46, this ship Charming Sally, John Stell commander, bound for Europe. August 4, the snow Ann, in latitude 32.25 longitude 59.46. John Bowes Captain, from

Tobago bound to Lancaster.

August 5 in latitude 33.37 and longitude 60.16 the brig Packet, Mark Towell, Captain.

August 7 latitude 34.95 longitude 60.18 the brig John, Captain Daniel McKay, for Dublin.

Two British warships come to New Haven

New Haven. Passed our harbor standing to the westward, two frigates, the Niger, Captain Talbot, 32 guns, the other of 28 guns, who had in company two small vessels supposed to be prizes. They left the English fleet, near New York last Friday seven night, and it is probable will remain in the Sound, to interrupt our communication with the army at New York.

10,000 men from Connecticut march to defend New York

Hartford. The whole standing militia of this state, west of the river Connecticut, with two regiments on the east side of the said river, have marched to join the grand American army in New York. They consist, on the most moderate computation, of at least ten thousand men.

Portuguese reported to have seized American vesseks

Hartford. Some American vessels, it is said, have lately been seized by the Portuguese, whose dependence on the British crown for protection and aid against their Spanish neighbors, obliges them to comply with everything required of them.

Detailed accounts given of mercenaries and British on Staten Island

Philadelphia. Captain Alexander Hunter came to town, who was taken last January by Lord Dunmore, and returned to Great Britain, from whence he got a passage in one of the first transports which

brought out the second division of Hessians, from which he made his escape in a boat yesterday week. By him we learn, that the first division of foreign troops sailed the beginning of May, and the second consisting of twenty seven sail, the 26th; that they fell in with each other off Sandy Hook, and came in together on Monday the 12th instant, that they made up about one hundred and ten sail, and contained eight thousand Hessians and Waldeckers, and one hundred of the English guards. They were in general healthy, except a little of the scurvy and th~~i~~tch. The English troops on Staten Island were embarking when he left the fleet, and the foreigners were disembarking, to encamp on Staten Island. He also informs that were five thousand foreigners more to follow in a third division.

From the best accounts we find the force at Staten Island to be as follows: General Howe from Halifax with 8,000. The Scotch who embarked at Glasgow for Boston, 3,400, out of which 850 were taken by our cruisers. The defeated troops under Cornwallis and Clinton from South Carolina, supposed not more than 2,500. The two divisions of Hessians, Waldeckers, and English guards, which arrived on Monday the 12th instant, 900. Lord Dunmore's scrubby fleet, about fifty fighting men, but with Negros, Tories etc., 150.

Number of marines unknown.

Ships Asia andEagle of sixty four guns, the Roebuck and Phoenix of forty four, one bomb, and about twenty frigates and sloops of war. They have also above three hundred sail of transports, store ships, and prizes.

Some persons in calculating the above add fifteen hundred as part of the army destined for Carolina, of whose arrival we have not had any account, either at South Carolina or Staten Island.

August 20, 1776 Penn. issues Declaration of Rights

Philadelphia. The following is a copy of the Declaration of Rights of the inhabitants of Pennsylvania passed by the Convention of this State.

That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain inherent and unalienable rights amongst which are the enjoying and defending life and liberty acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety.

That all men have an unalienable right to worship god according to their own consciences and understandings.---

That the people of the state have the sole right of governing the same.

That all officers of government are the servants and trustees of the people, accountable to them.

That government is for the common benefit, protection and security of the people.

That elections ought to be free.

That no one be compelled to bear arms against his conscience, but may yield an equivalent thereto in payment for services.

That trial by jury is every man's right.

That people have a right to hold themselves and their possessions free from search and seizure.

That people have a right to bear arms.

That they also have a right to freedom of speech and publishing their sentiments.

That men have a right to emigrate.

That they have a right to assemble.

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Three American officers are punished

Philadelphia. Colonel Bedel and Major Butterfield, for bad conduct during the Three Rivers defeat (see July 10) are broke, and rendered incapable of holding a commission in the army of the United States, and Captain Wentworth, for disobedience of orders, is cashiered.

Mercenaries are deserting British in North

Ticonderoga. We hear there are advices of two deserters from the Brunswickers being got in, who informed of ninety more who came off with them.

Negro wench for sale

Philadelphia. To be sold a hearty country born Negro wench, about eighteen years of age, who has had the smallpox and can wash, iron and cook.

August 21, 1776 Valuable prize taken by American privateers

Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Arrived a prize ship of about two hundred tons burthen, mounting twenty guns, twelve of which wood. She was bound from the Bay of Honduras for London, laden with mahogany and logwood, and taken by the Hancock and Franklin privateers.

British seize American vessel on Champlain

Ticonderoga. A gondola, with about twenty five men, was taken by the enemy in Lake Champlain.

Mercenaries are deserting British in North

Ticonderoga. We hear there are advices of two deserters from the Brunswickers being got in, who informed of ninety more who came off with them.

Women volunteer to replace men on the farms

Philadelphia. We hear from the Forks of Brandywine, in Chester County that as the men between sixteen and fifty are almost all abroad in the service of United States to prevent the evil that would follow on the neglect of putting in the fall crop, in proper season, several hearty patriotic young women have joined the plows and are preparing the fallows for the seed. And should their fathers, brothers and sweethearts be necessarily detained at camp, they will put in this crop themselves, then join their own proper business again, their spinning wheels. This is a very laudable example highly worthy of imitation.

Rogers and Pond take four prizes

New York. Two of our privateers commanded by the Captains Rogers and Pond, fell in with three vessels from Halifax, and took them. The first and second, loaded with hay and wood, a third,

loaded with suttlers stores for the army at Staten Island. They also took a fourth prize, loaded with oil, bound for Halifax. They are all carried safe into port.

Lightning destroys barn

Philadelphia. At about ten o'clock last night, a large barn and many stacks containing corn in sheaf and hay, belonging to Christopher Otinger, of Springfield township, in this county, about ten miles northward of the city, were set on fire by lightning and consumed.

August 22, 1776 British troops are massing for attack on Long Island

New York. The British General William Howe started moving his troops from Staten Island for an attack against the Americans in Flatbush and Brooklyn Heights on Long Island, landing them at Gravesend Bay. Thirteen thousand are encamped and employed in throwing up a breast works. Our people are not idle, having taken possession of the adjacent hills, where they are strongly fortifying themselves, to prevent the enemy's troops from penetrating fatther into the island.

Privateers take vessel of extraordinary value

Newport. A privateer belonging to Fair Haven has taken a very large Jamaica ship with a very valuable cargo. The ship was so valuable, rum, cotton, sugar, that the captain of the privateer, who was the best pilot for the eastern shore of any on board, went on board the ship to carry her in, and was parted with by the privateer last Sunday week. The privateers arrived with more prisoners than men belonging to her.

Horse pistols and carbines wanted

Philadelphia. Wanted immediately, a quantity of good horse pistols and carbines, for which ready money and a liberal price will be given by John Young junior. He has a quantity of muskets, best Virginia tobacco in hogsheads, and Indian dressed deer skins to sell.

Tenements for sale

Philadelphia. To be sold, sundry lots of Ground, with brick tenements, thereon erected, situate in the northern liberties of this city, Philadelphia, near Pool's bridge.

August 23, 1776

Naval dispute is to be tried

Philadelphia. To all whom it may concern.

Notice is hereby given, that a Court of Admiralty for taking cognizance of, and trying the justice of Captains of vessels made in pursuance of the resolve of the Honorable Continental Congress, and brought into this port of Philadelphia, will attend at the Court House, in the city of Philadelphia, on Tuesday the tenth day of September next, at ten o'clock in the forenoon at the same day, there to try the truth of the facts alleged in the bill of Lambert Weeks, commander of the ship of war called the Reprisal against the brigantine or vessel called the Neptune, burthen about eighty tons, with her tackle, apparel, furniture and cargo, lately commanded by James Robinson. To the end and intent that the owner or others of the said brigantine and her cargo, or any person concerned therein, may appear and show cause, if any they have, why the same should not be condemned according to the said bill.

New York Tories are exiled to Connecticut

New London. Three vessels have arrived here from New York, with Tories collected from that city and Long Island who are sent into the country towns.

Captured West Indies rum and sugar now for sale

Boston. By means of the great number of prizes carried into the different ports at the eastward, Jamaica rum is sold at 45 shillings per gallon, by the hogshead and sugar at five dollars per hundred weight.

Merchant will discount certain currency

Philadelphia. Ragged Newcastle and Maryland Money, exchanged for a moderate allowance, by James Callagher, at the corner of Spruce and Front Streets, Philadelphia. Also the highest price will be given for clean linen rags. He has a quantity of good green tea to dispose of.

August 24, 1776 Details of British victory on Long Island are reported /

New York. A number of ships with troops on board sailed Tuesday from Staten Island out of the Narrows; next day they were followed by many more, and near ten o'clock on Thursday morning about ten thousand men landed between New Utrecht and Graves end, on Long Island. Yesterday a party of them came and took possession of Flatbush, which immediately brought on a very hot fire from our troops, who are advantageously posted in the woods, and on every eminence around that place. An advanced party of the regulars are encamped a little to the north west of Flatbush church, and have a battery somewhat to the westward of Mr. Jeremiah Vanderbelt's, from whence they continue to fire briskly on our people, who often approach and discharge their rifles within two hundred yards of their works. We have had only four men wounded since the enemy landed, but we are certain many of them fell, one an Hessian was killed last Friday. Several dollars were found in his pocket, and he had an excellent rifle, and many of the regulars are in rifle dress.

British frigate fails to retake prize vessel

Boston. Was chased onto Marblehead by the Milford frigate the prize ship Isaac, from Tortola bound to London, three hundred and fifty tons burthen, commanded by Captain Ashburn, laden with five hundred hogsheads of sugar, forty four puncheons of rum, one hundred fifty bags of cotton, considerable quantities of old copper, and a number of turtle. She was taken by the privateer sloop Warren, commanded by Captain Phillips, and had it not been for the fort at Marblehead which fired at the Milford several times, she would have been inevitably retaken.

More Tories being resettled in Conn.

Hartford. A number of gentlemen were brought to this town from New York, where they were lately taken up on suspicion of entertaining sentiments unfriendly to the American States. We hear they are soon to set out for Norwich, where (for the present) they are desired to remain.

Salt will be rationed equitably

Philadelphia. The Convention has decided in view of the still exhorbitant prices illegally charged for salt to distribute it equally amongst the inhabitants.

August 25, 1776 Fort Stanwix reported strong and ready

Fort Stanwix, New York. A correspondent reports ~~Extract of a letter~~--Last week I left the army upon the Mohawk River, at the breaking up of the treaty with Indians. We had present nineteen hundred fifty six, including men, women, and children of the Indians, who have solemnly engaged for a strict neutrality. Both the passes into Canada are now so well fortified, that I think we have no reason to apprehend the enemy will enter that way.

The Fort of the pass from the Mohawk River to Wood Creek, called Fort Stanwix, has been repaired by Colonel Dayton's regiment, by the order of General Schuyler. It is a very important station, and I believe without exception the strongest fort on the continent. A wide ditch is sunk round it, about ten feet deep, the glaces on the outside are raised six feet above the surface and the wall of the fort within the ditch ten feet, and that is picketed upon the top. We have several pieces of cannon from six to twelve pounders, and the passes up Wood Creek can be stopped in a few hours, so that no artillery or baggage can be brought from the lakes, and small arms cannot hurt us.

British frigate succeeds in retaking prize vessels

Boston. The frigate Milford took off Cape Ann a prize brigantine coming into port, said to be one of Captain Whit's of Salem laden with rum from Grenada. Also a large sloop which our informant could not tell where from, or who commanded her.

Skirmishes withIndians are reported

Seneca, South Carolina. Advices from the camp near Seneca, inform us that Colonel Williamson, had returned from his expedition through the Cherokee lower settlements. He had an engagement, on the 12th near Tomawsey, with about three hundred of the enemy, when

they were routed, leaving sixteen men dead on the field of battle. Our loss was killed two, wounded 14. Captains Lacey and Neale, Lieutenant Hargrove and one private are since dead. The loss of the enemy in killed and wounded was thought to be sixty or seventy men. As desolation was spread throughout the lower towns, the Colonel's next object was the middle settlements where he expected to meet about this time Brigadier General Rutherford with two thousand Carolinians. Accounts were received at the camp that Colonel Lewis was preparing to march, with a considerable body of men, from Virginia in order to attack the Overhill settlements, so that there is little doubt but those faithless savages will soon be effectually chastised. Mr. James Homes, and several others, who were prisoners among the Cherokees, have made their escape and go to Fort James in Georgia. They say the Indians despair of being able to withstand Colonel Williamson's army and that Cameron and Hamilton had gone over the hills from whence they intend to proceed for Mobile.

August 26, 1776

Disability pay is voted by Congress

Philadelphia. Congress resolved that any soldier wounded so as it impairs him from working in the future shall receive disability pay and any who shall be capable of guard duty or any service on board the navy, shall be employed.

Great Duchess of Russia is dead

Petersburg, Russia. This afternoon died after a few days illness her Imperial Highness, the Great Duchess of Russia. This fatal event had given her imperial Majesty and the Great Duke the deepest of affliction and her loss is most sincerely and universally lamented throughout the empire.

August 27, 1776

action
Generals Sullivan and Sterling missing in L.I./

New York. ~~An express brought the following letter~~ Agreement reports from the Battle of Long Island --

Eight o'clock PM, Sir I have this minute returned from our lines on Brooklyn Heights where I left his Excellency the General (Washington). From him I have it in command to inform Congress that yesterday he went, there, and continued all evening when from the enemy's having landed a considerable part of their forces, and most of their movements, there was reason to apprehend they would make in a little time a general attack.

As they would have a wood to pass through, before they could approach the lines, it was thought expedient to place a number of men there, on the different roads leading from whence they were stationed, in order to harrass and annoy them in their march. This being done, early this morning a smart engagement ensued between the enemy and our detachments, which being unequal to the force they had to contend with, have sustained a pretty considerable loss; at least many of our men are missing. Among those that have not returned are General Sullivan and Lord Sterling.

The enemy's loss is not known certainly, but we are told by such of our troops that were in the engagement, and what have come in, that they had many killed and wounded. Our party brought off a lieutenant, sergeant, and corporal, with twenty privates, prisoners.

While those detachments were engaged, a column of the enemy descended from the woods, and marched towards the center lines, with a design to make an impression, but were repulsed.

This evening they appeared very numerous about the skirts of the woods, where they have pitched several tents; and his Excellency inclines to think they mean to attack and force us from our lines by way of regular approaches rather than in any other manner.

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Today five ships of the line came up and they turned a long time against an unfavorable wind. And on my return this evening, I found a deserter from the twenty third regiment, who informed me that they design, as soon as the wind will permit them, to come up, give us a severe cannonade, and to silence our batteries if possible.

The following gentlemen, it is said were killed in the late skirmish upon Long Island. viz, Lieutenant Colonel Parry of the 2nd battalion of Pennsylvania, Musketry, Major Abiel, in the New York Militia, and Hermanus Rutgers, a gentleman of New York, but of what rank in the army or whether more than a volunteer is not known.

Two battalions are dismissed after short duty

Philadelphia. By a certificate from General Mercer, Colonel Matlack's rifle battalion of this city and liberties, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Daniel Clymer, were honorably dismissed from their service at Perth Amboy and South Amboy, having faithfully served six weeks, and furnished their full and complete quota for the Flying Camp. The battalion arrived here yesterday.

By a letter from General Robertson at Amboy to the Honorable Convention of this state, we are informed, that Colonel Ross's battalion of Lancaster county, having been in actual service six weeks, and furnished their quota for the Flying Camp, were, by General orders, honorably, dismissed from farther service in New Jersey.

Two prize vessels taken by Newman

Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Captain Newman of the privateer Hancock has taken and carried two prizes into Portsmouth. One is a ship, the other a sloop.

August 28. 1776

Defeated by British, our troops leave Long Island

New York. American troops effected an orderly retreat from Long Island following their recent defeat by the British. Our men withdrew by boats to Manhattan.

War Office requests troops for New Jersey

Philadelphia. As there is the most pressing necessity for all the troops, without exception, who are now in Philadelphia, on their way to the camp, to march to Amboy, in the state of New Jersey, it is hereby most earnestly requested by the war office that they do immediately proceed, without waiting for farther supplies of arms or any other matter or thing, as care will be taken to furnish them when they arrive at camp.

Gunpowder will be inspected, at request of Congress

Philadelphia. Congress resolved that an inspector judge the quality of gunpowder for the use of the army, that it be marked USA, and that it be carefully casked.

August 29, 1776 A British soldier's version of the battle of Sullivan's Island, S. C.

Long Island, South Carolina. The following letter written by a British soldier was found on Long Island, South Carolina, and forwarded to Congress and is now made by public by order of Congress. John Hancock, President.

Camp, Long Island, South Carolina, July 13.
To the Honorable Anthony Falconer, at Montrose, Scotland:

Dear Brother,

With the greatest of difficulty I have procured this small piece of paper, to inform you of my being very well, notwithstanding the miserable situation we are in.

We have been encamped on this island for this month past, and have lived upon nothing else but salt pork and peas. We sleep upon the sea shore, nothing to shelter us from the violent rains, but our cows or miserable paltry blankets. There is nothing that grows upon this island, it being a mere sand bank, and a few bushes which harbor millions of musquitoes, a greater plague than there can be in hell itself.

By this sloop of war you will have an account of an action which has happened on the 28th June between the ships and the Fort on Sullivan's Island. The cannonade continued for about nine hours, and was perhaps one of the briskest known in the annals of war; we had two fifty gun ships, and five frigates from twenty four to thirty guns playing on the fort, I may say without success, for they did the battery no manner of damage, and killed fifteen, and wounded betwixt forty and fifty. Our ships are in the most mangled situation you can conceive. The Acteon, a thirty gun frigate, run aground during the action, and as it was impossible to get her off, we were obliged to burn and blow her up.

Our killed and wounded amounts to betwixt two and three hundred. Numbers die daily of their wounds.

The commodore is wounded in two different places. His captain lost his left arm, and right hand, and was wounded in different parts of his body, he lived but two days after the action. Captain Scott, of the Experiment of fifty guns, died of his wounds, and numbers of the other officers.

If the ships could have silenced the battery, the army was to have made an attack on the back of the island where they had about one thousand men entrenched up to their eyes, besides a small battery of four guns, one eighteen pounder, and three four pounders, all loaded with grape shot, so that they would have killed half of us before we could make our landing good.

We are now expecting to embark for New York to join General Howe, with the grand army. My anxiety to inform you of bad news had well nigh made me forget to mention our passage to Cape Fear, where we arrived safely the first of May, after a voyage of three months. Though it was long, yet it was not disagreeable after we got out of the Bay of Biscay, where we went with the worst weather ever known at sea, and continued in that situation for sixteen days. After that time we had very fine weather all along; sometimes we were becalmed for four or five days together, not going above ten knots a day. Upon our arrival in Cape Fear we disembarked, and were encamped in the woods until the 27th of May, when we went on board again, and sailed for this infernal place. The oldest of the officers do not remember of ever undergoing such hardships as we have done since our arrival here.

I hope you will be so good as to watch every opportunity to let me hear from you and Mrs. Falconer, and at the same time to inform me how I shall do in case I shall be obliged to purchase by Lieutenancy. I beg you will make my excuse to my dear sister for not writing to her at this time, it is not owing to want of affection, but to the want of proper materials. I am obliged to write on the ground. You will be so good as to let Captain Falconer know the same thing. I shall write again from New York I am dear sir, Your most affectionate brother, William Falconer.

Island, S.C.

British newspaper publishes a report of battle of Sullivan's /

London. The Americans in the late affair at Charlestown, South Carolina, we are assured, by a letter from the master of the Loyal Subject transport, had a bridge of boats from Sullivan's Island to the main land, over which their wounded were conveyed from the fort, and fresh men continually detached in their room. Three thousand provincials were intrenched up to their chins at a small distance from the fort and appeared to our people to abandon it. It was only supposed to be a feint, in order to make Clinton land his men, and fall into the ambuscade.

Enemy ships anchor at Throgs Neck, N.Y.

New York. British ships sailed around Throgs Neck and City Island taking cattle and sheep. Our men fired, but the British anchored at Throgs Neck.

Retreat from Long Island is regarded as fortunate

New York. ~~Extract of a letter~~ Report from an American Soldier -- I am just come up from Long Island with our two Pennsylvania battalions, all of our troops having retreated since last evening, except some advanced

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guards, amongst whom are the first Lieutenant and Ensign, and with six or eight privates of Captain Hubley's company in Colonel Shee's battalion who will in all probability be made prisoners. The enemy had discovered our retreat when we came over. All our army on the island, about eighteen thousand in number, came in boats from six in the evening til this morning. Colonel Hand's, the Maryland, and our two battalions, covered the retreat. We were nearly surrounded by enemy. Their encampment made a beautiful appearance, and extended, I suppose near four miles in length. Our situation was very dangerous. We think ourselves very fortunate in making a retreat.

August 30, 1776 Long Island retreat said to reflect credit on Gen. Washington

New York. General Washington has effected a safe retreat for our army out of Long Island, in spite of the great numbers commanded by Howe. They have brought everything off with them, except some very large cannon, which they spiked up, and a few out sentries. In the skirmishes, which have been for these several days past, the enemy have lost upwards of a thousand, and we not much more than five hundred. They have sent a flag of truce, offering to exchange General Sullivan and Lord Sterling for two generals they have missing, but as we have them not, it is supposed they are killed. The manner in which our retreat was performed reflects the highest credit upon our commander in chief and the officers in general.

Need for troops in New Jersey is reaffirmed

Philadelphia. From the Council of Safety, Pennsylvania. Whereas some designing ill-disposed persons have spread false reports that the number of troops now in New Jersey is too great and that many are in consequence discharged by the generals, and that there is not any occasion to forward the troops who have not yet been at camp, The council therefore to frustrate the designs of such persons, and to hasten the march of the Associators to the camp in Jersey, make known that there is an immediate necessity for the Associators to hasten their march to the said camp with all expedition, and pay no regard to any reports which do not come from this council or other proper authority.

By order of Council, Samuel Morris, Chairman.

Postal service is improved, by order of Congress

Philadelphia. Congress resolved that the communication of intelligence, with frequency and dispatch from one part to another of

this extensive continent, is essentially requisite to its safety that therefore will be employed, on the several post roads, a rider for every twenty five or thirty miles, whose business it shall be to proceed to his stage three times in every week, setting out immediately on receipt of the mail, and travelling with the same by night and by day, without stopping, until he shall have delivered it to the next rider, and that every postmaster general be desired either by the use of way bills, or by such other means as he shall find most efficacious to prevent delays in the riders, or to discover where they happen, that such dilatory riders may be discharged.

And it is requisite that the post master generals should attend with punctuality at their several offices, for the receipt and delivery of letters.

Editorial commends the general public

Philadelphia. From the Pennsylvania Evening Post---

One may generally observe that the body of a people has juster views for the public good, and pursues them with greater uprightness than the nobility and gentry, who have so many private expectations and particular interests, which hang like a false bias upon their judgements, and may possibly dispose them to sacrifice the good of their country to the advancement of their own fortunes, whereas the gross of the people can have no other prospect in changes and revolutions than public blessings, that are to diffuse themselves through the whole state.

August 31, 1776

Washington again lauded for Long Island retreat

New York. A correspondent reports -- ~~Extract of a letter.~~ You are no doubt surprised to hear of our sudden retreat from Long Island, but it was thought absolutely essential from our situation. We were under a necessity of marching out and attacking them upon our own ground or suffering ourselves to have been starved into a surrender--first, because they were entrenching within five hundred yards of our lines, which were very weak and incapable of withstanding their heavy cannon, and our men, from their situation, began to grow very uneasy; and secondly, because their shipping might have run up the East River, and cut our resources of provision and every other necessary. The retreat was conducted with the greatest secrecy, and by six o'clock in the morning we had every thing embarked. There never was a man that behaved better upon the occasion than General Washington. He was on horse back the whole night, and never left the ferry stairs till he had seen the whole of his troops embarked.

British brig is taken

Boston. Was taken by the schooner Hannah and Molly, and the Dolphin privateers, and carried into Frenchman's Bay, the brig Royal George, commanded by Dennis Doyle, having on board pork, beef, better, oatmeal, split peas, candles, soap. She was bound from Waterford in Ireland to Halifax, out ten weeks. Brings news about a false report in Ireland that the British troops had taken possession of the greatest part of Philadelphia and had taken the Continental Congress prisoners.

September 1, 1776 A full report of Battle of Long Island appears

New York. The Gazette published a letter from an American soldier reporting the Battle of Long Island: Last Monday morning we went over to Long Island, and about midnight we were alarmed by the return of some of our scouting parties, who advised us that the English were in motion, and coming up the Island with several field pieces. It was generally thought not to be the main body, but only a detachment, with a view to possess themselves of some advantageous heights. Upon which near three thousand men were ordered out, consisting chiefly of the Pennsylvania and Maryland troops, to attack them on their march. About sunrise we came up with a very large body of them. The Delaware and Maryland battalions made one party. Colonel Atles with his battalion a little before us, had taken post in an orchard and behind a barn, and on the approach of the enemy he gave them a very severe fire, which he bravely kept up for a considerable time, until they were near surrounding him, when he retreated to the woods. The enemy then advanced towards us, upon which Lord Sterling, who commanded, immediately drew up in a line, and offered them battle in the true English taste. The British army then advanced within about three hundred yards of us, and began a very heavy fire from their cannon and mortars, for both the balls and shells flew very fast, now and then taking off a head. Our men stood it amazingly well, not even one of them showed a disposition to shrink.

Our orders were not to fire until the enemy came within fifty yards of us, but when they perceived we stood their fire so cooly and resolutely, they declined coming any nearer although treble

our number. In this situation we stood from sunrise to twelve o'clock, the enemy firing upon us the chief part of the time, when the main body of their army, by a route we never dreamed of, had entirely surrounded us, and drove within the lines, or scattered in the woods, all our men, except the Delaware and Maryland battalion, who were standing at bay with double their number. Thus situated, we were ordered to attempt a retreat, by fighting our way through the enemy, who had posted themselves, and nearly every field and road between us and our lines. We had not retreated a quarter of a mile before we were fired upon by an advanced party of the enemy, and those upon our rear were playing upon us with their artillery. But our men fought with more than Roman virtue, and I am convinced, would have stood party, which first attacked us, to give way, through which opening we got a passage down to the side of a marsh, seldom before waded over, which we passed, and then swam a narrow river; all the time exposed to the fire of the enemy, when hardly a man fell.

The whole of the right wing of our battalion, thinking it impossible to pass through the marsh, attempted to force their way through the woods, where they were almost to a man killed or taken. The Maryland battalion has lost two hundred and fifty nine men amongst whom are twelve officers, two captains, etc.

Many of the officers lost their swords and guns. We have since entirely abandoned Long Island, bringing off our military stores.

Generals Sullivan and Sterling are both prisoners.

We took a few prisoners. By a Lieutenant we took we understand that they had about twenty three thousand men on the island that morning.

Most of our generals were upon a high hill in our lines, viewing us with glasses. When we began our retreat they could see the enemy we had to pass through, though we could not. Many of them thought we would surrender in a body, without firing. When we began the attack, General Washington wrung his hands and cried out, "Good God, what brave fellows I must this day lose." Major Guest commanded the Maryland battalion, the Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel being both at York. Captains Adams and Lucas were sick. The Major, Captain Ramsey, and Lieutenant Plunkett were foremost, and within forty yards of the enemy's muzzles, when they were fired upon by the enemy who were chiefly under cover of an orchard, save a few that showed themselved and pretended to give up, clubbing their firelocks until we came within that distance, when they immediately presented and blasted in our faces, they entirely overshot us, and killed some men way behind in the rear. I had the satisfaction of dropping one of them the first fire I made. I was so near I could not miss. I discharged my rifle seven times that day and deliberately as I ever did a mark, and with as little perturbation.

Robbery reported; reward offered

Philadelphia. Notice of the following robbery appeared in the Pennsylvania Packet--The subscriber's house, was broke open in the night of the 24th instant, and sundry articles stolen, amongst which are a new feather bed with a striped linen casing, a bolster and pillow, some sheets, a damask table cloth, a new shirt of homespun linen, a silver table spoon marked HC, a small sliding spy glass, in two parts, the outside mahogany, and the slider brass, a new pewter tankard, a decanter, etc. etc. Whoever can give information

of the above articles so that the thief may be convicted shall receive a reward.

Proprietors of Indiana are summoned to important meeting Philadelphia. The proprietors of the tract of land on the Ohio, called Indiana, are hereby notified that, agreeable to their minutes, the meeting of the body is to be held in the city of Philadelphia on the 20th day of September, when it is expected that the proprietors will punctually attend, as matters of great importance will be laid before them.

September 2, 1776

Another Navy frigate will be launched

Hartford. The Continental frigate now building at Chatham, is to be launched on Thursday next.

British ships suffer defeat at hands of French and Spanish

Salem, Massachusetts. We have Intelligence, that a battle has been fought in the Mediterranean between some British ships and a French and Spanish fleet. The latter proved victorious having sunk two English ships and taken one.

Casualty count of Long Island Battle is published

New York. By some who left Huntington we hear that the inhabitants of Suffolk County were to resign up their arms yesterday.

Our loss in the battle of the 27 remain yet uncertain, the circulation being from six hundred to one thousand. Colonel Huntington's regiment is said to have suffered much, there being missing six captains, six lieutenants, and twenty one sergeants, two drummers, and one hundred twenty six rank and file.

Captured vessel's cargo for sale

New York. The cargo of the prize ship Friendship will be sold, condemned in the court.

September 3, 1776 British expected to attack Kings Bridge, N.Y.

New York. We hear that the main body of the enemy's army are now encamped near Hell Gate. They have transported a number of boats over land, and it is supposed they intend to cross and land a little above their encampment, and attack our army near Kings Bridge, where we are making great preparations to receive them.

Women are leaving Long Island

New Haven. Four women landed at Milford from Long Island and we hear are coming off daily to the continent.

New Haven American Captain released by British

Captain Redfield on his return from New York was taken by one of the frigates, who burnt his vessel, and after detaining him a few days, he was dismissed.

4/60

September 4, 1776 American General is optimistic

Philadelphia. ~~Extract of letter~~ A part from a General officer at Ticonderoga ~~arrived here...~~

The enemy must come on, and I think they will be severely drubbed, for we are in a good posture to receive them. General Arnold has got down with the fleet, having on board about one hundred pieces of cannon, who, it is very probable, will take the fiery edge off the enemy before they reach us. If we succeed at New York, the game is up and Great Britain undone. What sudden mischief a few designing men can bring upon a nation! But Britain was lost before. And should America ever reach the same pitch of luxury and corruption, she too will fall. Liberty can only subsist with virtue.

4d

September 5, 1776 Publication of Declaration of Independence is censored in Halifax /

Boston. The Governor of Halifax received the Declaration of Independence about four weeks since, but would not permit the poor dupe of a printer (had he ever so good a mind) to publish any more of it than barely the last clause, where it says, "We therefore, the representatives of the United States of America in general congress assembled, do etc. etc." And his reason, as we are credibly informed, was because it may gain over to the rebels many converts, and inflame the minds of his Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects of the province of Nova Scotia.

Our last accounts from Halifax say they left there forty sail of vessels, prizes, etc. that they were in great fright, expecting an attack from our troops every day. Three expresses arrived successfully, with an account of their being at Cumberland and having five hundred Indians with them, and it was supposed there, about two thousand Americans. They had, it was said, cut a road of ninety miles in three weeks, through the woods, from Sheperday to Cumberland, that the above news came from the mouth of an express from Colonel Gorham, who every moment expected to be besieged, and wrote to Halifax for succors, and that an Indian of the St. John tribe, was executed for damning his excellency General Washington.

Our American prisoners to the number of thirty one, are confined in the common jail of Halifax, a lousy, filthy, unwholesome place, and are treated in the most inhuman and barbarous manner possible and have nothing to live upon but salt provisions, and that very scant, thrown in among Negros, robbers, etc. and we are told they know no distinctions between them.

Defeat on Long Island has not dispirited our troops

New York. The British officer Fairbattle writes to Lord Howe that the Americans are not dispirited by being out numbered and surrounded by the British in the battle of Long Island. Indeed he suggests that 10,000 men of each side be arranged according to British preference on the Island to fight it out in an equal battle with God predicting the winners.

British frigate now loses prize to Capt. Waters

New York. Captain Waters in the Lee vessel of war, has retaken a sloop bound for Halifax, which was lately taken off this harbor, by the Milford frigate, and sent her safe into port.

An interpretation of dreams

Philadelphia. A correspondent says that a few days before the attack of Charlestown, a famous Swiss doctor in Georgia observed to a gentleman that he lately had a dream, and that his dream was, the King's flag was flying upon Sullivan's Island, though, says the doctor, it is but a dream and any body may dream, I believe it true for all that. What a pity this renowned doctor did not recollect that dreams and Swiss Almanacks are interpreted by contraries.

German Battalion, pro-patriots, will fight in New York

Philadelphia. Congress has directed the board of war to recruit and send the German battalion to New York.

Treason is defined in Penn.

Philadelphia. Passed in Convention, Benjamin Franklin President: An ordinance of the state of Pennsylvania declaring what shall be treason, and rules for punishing the same and other crimes and practices against the state.

If one is on the British side against the state there will be forfeit of property and imprisonment.

Shielding a traitor one will forfeit one third of ones goods.

To live in Pennsylvania is to pay allegiance to her. If not, one will be treated as a traitor.(Provisions will be made for wives and children).

This ordinance is in force until the session of the first assembly shall meet under the new Constitution of this state, and no longer.

Shore guns repel British warship in Turtle Bay, N.Y.

September 6, 1776

New York. A British man of war came to anchor in Turtle Bay upon which General Washington ordered two twelve pounders to be carried to a convenient piece of ground to attack her. They soon obliged the ship to retire having hulled her twelve times.

September 7, 1776 First submarine attack, an American invention, fails in/

New York. The first submarine, a one-man underwater mine built by David Bushnell and piloted by Sergeant Ezra Lee made an unsuccessful attempt to torpedo British Admiral Howe's flagship, the Eagle, in New York harbor.

Advertisers must pay cash

Philadelphia. The Pennsylvania Evening Post ran this notice: No advertisement will be inserted in this paper if the money be not sent with it.

September 8, 1776 Enemy fleet controls New York waters

New York. Since the retreat of our army from Long Island, the enemy have extended themselves over a considerable length on the shore bordering the Sound, and on Tuesday a large number of them landed on Blackwell's Island about three miles from this city, but the shot from our batteries soon made them recross the river. On Wednesday a ship from the fleet, supposed to be a frigate, passed between Governors Island and Red Hook, and that night got up the Sound abreast of the island the enemy had been driven from, when under cover of her guns, they the next day again came over to it in large bodies. This brought on a brisk cannonade for near two hours, in which the ship sustained so great damage in her hull, as obliged her to move close in with the Long Island shore for shelter from our shot and bombs. At the same time of attack, a firing also began from the enormous batteries on Long Island opposite the city, which was returned with such spirit by our people in their fortresses in and about the ship yards, that they gave us little or no annoyance since from that quarter.

Several men of war now lie within gun shot of our main battery, and the greatest part of the fleet behind Governor's Island, though they have lately had very favorable winds to come up to the city, which gives us reason to think they mean not to attack it by water, till they know the success of their forces in attempting to land on this island.

Thursday a barge was seen in the East river, sounding the channel, where it is obstructed by two scuttled vessels, but soon made off, as it is supposed she observed our people at the main forts preparing to give them a suitable salutation.

A flag came down from the fleet with a return of these officers that were made prisoners in the attack on Long Island who we hear are treated with civility by the British officers.

Saturday night our guard boats, observing the motion of the fleet, fell in with those of the enemy, when a smart attack began and lasted for some time but the latter, being reinforced with several tenders, obliged ours to return to their station.

This morning a cannonade again commenced, supposed to be from our people opposing some new maneuvers of the enemy up the Sound.

September 9, 1776 British battery causes damage at Hell Gate, N.Y.

New York. The enemy opened a battery against ours at Horns Hook near Hell Gate, across the river. There was a heavy firing all day. They threw about one hundred shells at us, killed one of our men, and wounded twelve more.

Congressional Committee will meet with enemy General

Philadelphia. The Honorable Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and Edward Rutledge, Esq, members of Congress set off for New York in order, it is said, to confer with Lord Howe, upon the subject of sundry propositions sent by his Lordship to the Congress by General Sullivan. It is said his Lordship's proposals for peace were a mere finesse, as he acknowledged he had no other power than what is mentioned in the act of parliament.

September 10, 1776 Pennsylvanians and Virginians settle dispute boundary/

Williamsburg. The Virginia delegates agreed to a temporary boundary between Pennsylvania and Virginia, a peaceful negotiation of a dispute which could have turned into a civil war. They will have their convention pass the boundary into law as soon as possible.

September 11, 1776 British step up aggressive acts at New York

New York. The British ship, Asia went up the North river, again. Also, there was a smart firing from Bergen Point, at two tenders, a sloop and a schooner that lay near Shuyters island, at the mouth of Newark Bay.

A number of the enemy took possession of Bahanna and Montrefour's Islands from whence it was imagined they intended to land either at Harlem or Morrissania.

Conn. Captain brings in captured vessel

New London. The armed schooner Spy, Captain Robert Niles belonging to Connecticut, returned here. She brought in with her the schooner Mary and Elizabeth, bound from Barbados to Halifax. About eighteen days ago she took the ship Hope, bound from St. Vincents to London.

In latitude 38 Longitude 65 Captain Niles saw five large ships, which he supposed, were transports under convoy of a large man of war. The latter chased him some time.

September 12, 1776 **Enemy ships are now at Hell Gate, N.Y.**

New York. Two British ships of war made their appearance at Hell Gate having come through the Sound.

Mass. will send men to aid New York

Boston. The General Assembly of the State of Massachusetts Bay passed a resolve for raising every fifth man in the same, a few seaport towns excepted, to march for New York for the immediate assistance of our brethren there.

Carolinians are successful against Indians

Williamsburg. General Lee writes from Purrysburg, of August 15 that he is going to break up East Florida. President Rutledge in a letter to the council writes that the South Carolinians had destroyed five Indian towns in the lower settlements, and laid waste their fields of corn. They have had two skirmishes, in both of which the Carolinians have been very successful. They suppose they killed between sixty and seventy men.

French are poised to assist Americans

Newport. A sloop arrived at Dartmouth, in seven weeks from France, by whom we learn that American vessels find a very free trade there, and the French only waited for a declaration of independence from this country when they were determined to strike some capital blow.

We learn by the above vessel that the carpenters were so closely engaged in the ship yards that she could not procure a single hand to do one days work on her.

September 13, 1776 British ships sail up East River through hot fire

New York. A gun was fired from the Admirals ship at three o'clock when the Phoenix and Roebuck of forty guns each, the Orpheus of thirty, and another frigate, got underway, and went up the East river, through a very hot fire from all batteries.

British troops from Southern district on way to New York

Williamsburg. A troop of Light Horse arrived in town from Petersburg, and yesterday arrived from Glouschester the Seventh Regiment of Foot who as well as the Fourth and Sixth are under orders to proceed to New York.

Further reports that French are ready to assist

Williamsburg. Another vessel is arrived at Hampton with fourteen hundred bushels of salt and a small quantity of rum. The Captain informs that he spoke a French ship, one of a fleet of fourteen sail, laden with likewise on board,who intended to offer their services to the United States of America.

September 14, 1776 More enemy ships sail up East River, N.Y.

New York. Four other British frigates and two transports went up the East River to join those that went yesterday.

Our Western frontiers are feared threatened by Indians

Philadelphia. In Convention--From the letters received from the Commissioners for Indian Affairs for the Middle Department there is much reason to apprehend that the Indians have been encouraged by the agents of his Britannic Majesty to fall on the frontiers of these states. Therefore it behooves this Convention to take every precaution for the safety of our western frontiers.

Three prize vessels captured

Providence. The privateers Montgomery and Yankee Ranger, of this port, have taken three large brigs bound from the West Indies to England.

Book is published on religious liberty and Blackstone's laws

Philadelphia. Lately published and now selling by Robert Bell; The Palladium, or Conscience, or the foundation of religious liberty displayed, asserted, and established, agreeable to its true and genuine principles, above the reach of all petty tyrants who attempt to Lord it over the human mind. Containing Furneaux's letters to Blackstone, Priestly's remarks on Blackstone, Blackstone's reply to Priestley, and Blackstone's case of the Middlesex elections with some other curious tracts, worthy of high rank in every gentleman's literary repository. Being a necessary companion for every lover of religious liberty. And an interesting appendix to Blackstone's commentaries on the Laws of England.

September 15, 1776 British ships bombard New York from North River

Powles Hook, New York. An American officer reports--

After Long Island was evacuated, it was judged impossible to hold the city of New York, and for several days the artillery and stores of every kind had been removing and last night the sick were ordered to Newark in the Jerseys, but most of them could be got no farther than this place and Hoebuck, and at there in but one house in reach of these places, they were obliged to lie in the open till this morning, whose distress, when I walked out at day break, gave me a livelier idea of the horror of war than anything I ever met with before. The commandant ordered then everything for their comfort that the place afforded and immediately forwarded them to the place appointed and prepared for them.

About eight this morning three large ships came to sail and made up towards the House. The garrison, consisting of the South Continental regiment (Colonel Durkee's) and a regiment of Jersey militia (Colonel Daychincks) were ordered into our works. Soon after they had taken their posts, the ships came up near Jersey Shore, to avoid our shot from the guard battery, and as they passed up the North River kept up an incessant fire upon us. Their shot, a great part of which was grape, raked the whole Hook, but providentially one horse was all the loss we sustained by it. The fire was briskly returned from our battery by Captain Dann who commanded a company of the train on this station.

It gave me great pleasure to see the spirit of the troops around me, who were evidently animated by the whistling of the enemy's shot, which often struck so near as to cover them with dust.

About eleven o'clock a furious cannonade was heard a little above New York, and before night numbers came over from the city, and

informed that it was evacuated by our troops, and about sunset we saw the tyrant's flag flying on Fort George.

Having received intelligence that a number of our troops were in the city, and the enemy spread across the island above it, two small parties were ordered to assist them in making their escape. Two captains with about forty men, two brass howitzers, and about two tons of military stores were brought off by one of them, the other party consisting of five men only, were fired upon by the enemy, supposed the Tories, who have committed a number of robberies on the friends of America, when one Jesse Squire of Norwich was wounded and together with another man, fell into their hands.

The enemy is now in possession of Manhattan

New York. Two large bodies of Howe's troops, protected by a naval bombardment, landed on Manhattan at Kip's Bay and Turtle Bay, and overcoming feeble opposition they pushed forward rapidly to the west and the north. Washington retreated to a position on Harlem Heights and called the American rout"disgraceful and dastardly.".

Vessel from West Indies is captured

Newburyport, Massachusetts. Arrived the brig Georgia Diana, Peter Rigan master, bound from Grenada to London, taken by Washington privateer, Nathaniel Odiorne, the usual cargo with twenty chaldron of coal.

River, N.Y.
September 16, 1776 American fireboats fail to stop menemy in North/

New York. About two o'clock this morning an attempt was made to burn the British ships that passed up the North River yesterday, and anchored about three miles above them. The Renown of fifty guns, was grappled but broke her grappling, and came down by us again, another cannonade ensued, but no damage was received on our side.

The brave Colonel Druyckink who did all he could to retain his men, could keep his regiment no longer, but was obliged to retreat to Bergen, from which time Colonel Durked was left on the Hook with only a part of his regiment, consisting of about three hundred effective men.

New York More details of capture of Manhattan by enemy

New ~~York~~ Yesterday The British ship, Asia, and two other ships of war proceeded ~~yesterday~~ up the North river, but were roughly handled by our battery at Powles Hook and this morning, by daylight, the Asia came down much faster than she went up, three ships of war being nearly all destroyed by four of our fire ships that run in among them, and nothing prevented their total destruction but a gale of wind that sprung up at that instant. About eleven o'clock, the enemy effected the landing of a number of men near Mr. Stuyvesant's house in the Bowery, about two miles from the city, under cover of a most tremendous fire from eight or ten ships of war, and in a few hours after, took possession of the city of New York.

Manhattan lost, our troops retreat to Harlem Heights

Harlem Heights, New York. The enemy landed at Turtle Bay, below Hell Gate under cover of ships of war. The brigade under General Parsons were soon obliged to retire from the waterside and give ground for the enemy to land. General Mifflin immediately marched

from Mount Washington with a thousand men, to the ground near and below ~~this place~~ Harlem Heights, where he made a stand, threw up some works rallied our retreating troops, and in an hour after, had the principal part of our army, who were stationed below us, drawn up in good order on the Heights. Generals Putnam and Scott were in New York, but made their way through the enemy's lines with all their men and the guards of the city. Colonel Knox is missing, and supposed to be taken, as he was late in town, looking for a boat to cross the North river. ~~Three days since it was resolved to quit the town, we have been removing ever since. We have taken almost everything out of the city but lost some cannon and stores.~~ New York never was tenable and the holding of it obliged us to divide our army into many weak parts.

Enemy reported attacking at Ticonderoga

Hartford. General Schuyler has received intelligence from General Gates at Ticonderoga that a heavy firing had been heard at that place which continues, with some intermission, for several days, supposed to be between General Arnold at the head of the American fleet on that station, and a party of the enemy.

American Captain meets English and French fleets at sea

Portsmouth. Captain Palmer met with a large fleet of English transports consisting of thirty three sail, three of which he took to be men of war, and being so near them that he and a gentlemen passenger on board who is going to South Carolina, were obliged to throw their valuable papers and letters overboard. These gentlemen inform also us that that the French have two fleets at sea, one of eleven, the other nine sail of the line, which are supposed to cruise in the Mediterranean in order to prevent the progress of the Russians there. In all the ports of France, the American ships are received

and treated with the utmost cordiality and indulgence imaginable; that the French were in daily expectation of hearing that America was declared independent of Great Britain; that the Spaniards had last July an embargo on all shipping outward bound in all Spanish ports and that war was about to be declared between Spain and Portugal, in which case England would be obliged to step in, in behalf of Portugal which will inevitably be the cause of bringing Spain and France into the war against Great Britain.

September 17, 1776 MMS Renown returns to NorthRiver,N.Y.

New York. This day a large quantity of lead, musketball, and buckshot was discovered in a suspected house about a mile and half above Powles Hook, and brought down to this place and properly secured for the United States. Towards night the Renown returned back to her station up the North River, but kept near the Eastern shore, to avoid the shot from our battery, which however kept up a brisk fire upon her as long as she was within reach.

Congress authorizes veterans to get land grants

Philadelphia. Congress resolved that eighty battalions be enlisted as soon as possible to serve.

That ~~Congress make~~ provisions be made for granting lands to those officers and soldiers who shall engage in the service to the close of the war or until discharged by Congress, That it be recommended to the several states that they take the most speedy and effectual measures for enlisting their several quotas. ~~That the money to be given for counties be paid~~.

Successful activities of American privateers

Boston. Captain Samson returned to Plymouth after a short cruise, in which he has taken five prizes, three or four of which are arrived safe into port.

Was sent into Cape Ann, by Captain Coas of the Warren privateer, a brig of about one hundred twenty tons, mounting eight carriage guns and ten swivels. She was from the coast of Guinea, but late from Tobago, with some elephants teeth and gold dust.

The ship which the Warren sent in last Saturday was from Tobago bound for London, called the Picary, Captain Breckholt Cleveland commander.

September 18, 1176

Prize vessels are landed safely

Newport. A large ship taken by the General Greene, and a Baltimore schooner, and a brig taken by the Revenge, got safe into a neighboring port. They are valuable prizes.

Respected American officer is slain

New York. Intelligence was received that the brave Lieutenant Colonel Knowlton was killed in the action that happened a little below Kingsbridge on Monday, as he was fighting with undaunted courage at the head of a body of Rangers, the command of which was assigned to him. The joy the success of that action would have occasioned was greatly lessened in this department by the loss of an officer so greatly respected and beloved.

September 19, 1776 Casualty estimates made of New York battles

Harlem Heights, New York. A summary of reports --

A soldier of our army who was taken prisoner and escaped from the enemy last night, informs that he heard an officer say that there had been thirteen hundred buried on both sides, also that every morning, when they counted the prisoners over, he heard them say there were six hundred of them. Should this be true, they must have had one thousand men killed. He also says that by threats and persuasions near two hundred of our men had enlisted with the British and were immediately sent to Halifax. How true this is I cannot say.

Philadelphia. To be sold by John Sparhawk in Second Street, near the courthouse, West India and country rum, a parcel of race ginger, a few cases of sweet oil, and packages of Glassware.

September 20, 1776 Firing reported from New Jersey

Newark. A very heavy firing was heard on York Island at Bergen town.

We hear there are now more than one thousand of the King's troops now in New York and those principally Englishmen.

HMS Renown requires repairs

New York. The British ship Renown returned back again to the fleet and though she passed close in with New York about forty shot from our battery were fired at her, many of which took effect. She lay all next day upon a carbon, to repair.

Newport. Captain Munro took a ship up the bay, and the same night another brig, taken by the Revenge, passed the east passage. They are valuable prizes.

September 21, 1776 New York is in flames

New York. Two reports appeared regarding the burning of New York--At two this morning we were awaked by the guards, who informed us that New York was on fire. As the fire began at the south east end of the city, a little east of the grand Battery, it was spread by a strong south wind, first on the East river, and then northward, across the Broadway, opposite to the Old English church (if I mistake not the name) from thence it consumed all before it, between Broadway and the North river, near to the college, laying about one third part of the city in ashes, (the opinion of those best acquainted with it) and had not the wind, as it veered to the west, died away, the remainder of that nest of vipers would have been destroyed.

This evening a seaman, who said he belonged to Providence, that he was taken and obliged to fight against his countrymen on board the Roebuck, made his escape by swimming, ~~from New York to this place~~. He informed that the men on board the Roebuck were very sickly, that they had lost a hundred since they left the Capes of Virginia. He also gave notice that preparation had been made to attack this post, that a number of large ships were to come up and endeavor to silence our batteries, while a large body of troops in boats, which we discovered on the opposite shore above us, were to cut off our retreat, that it was to have been executed this morning but the fire prevented.

New York. The city was in flames this morning and we have many different accounts of that melancholy affair. The fire seems to have originated at Whitehall, soon extended to the Exchange, took its course up the west side of Broadway Street, as far as Verlattenberg Hill, consuming all the blocks from the Whitehall up.

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The flames extended across the Broadway from the house of Mr. David Johnson to Beaver Lane, or Pincher's Alley, on the west and carried all before it, a few buildings excepted, to the house at the corner of Bercley Street where in the late Mr. Adam Vandenberg lived, sweeping all the cross streets in the way. The buildings left standing on the west side of the Broadway are supposed to be Captain Thomas Randall's, Captain Kennedy's, Dr. Mallat's, Mr. John Cortlandt's sugar house and dwelling house.

The cause of the fire is not known. We imagine a sixth part of the whole city is destroyed and many families have lost their all.

Assets of our new nation are considerable

Philadelphia. A reader of the Pennsylvania Evening Post computes the value of the United States of America--

From the quantity of land within the present inhabited part of those states, which is at least two hundred millions of acres, and worth a dollar per acre I should think at least, some say two or three dollars, and perhaps the personal estate might be computed at as much more, which I do not think is reckoning high, and will make the amount four hundred millions of dollars. All these computations prove with certainty enough that the funds on which the continental money depends are sufficiently great to support a very much larger quantity than is already emitted. I would farther observe that the American states owe nothing to any body but themselves, and employ no ships, soldiers, but their own, so that they contract no foreign debts, and I take it to be a clear maxim that no state can be ruined, bankrupted or indeed much

endangered by any debt due to itself only nor can it ever be much impoverished by any war, if the war and other casualties do not destroy mankind faster than the women produce them and the people that are left at home can furnish the provisions, clothing etc. necessary for themselves and the soldiery, together with all other necessary stores and implements of war.

Librarian offers French language lessons

Philadelphia. Francis Daymon, master of the French and Latin languages and librarian to the public library, continues to instruct gentlemen in the French language in the most expeditious method, agreeable to the late improvements of the French Academy. He keeps a regular class every evening for those who cannot conveniently attend in the day time.

British appear ready to attack Powles Hook

September 22, 1776 ~~British attack is briefly suspended in New York~~

New York. A number of British regulars embarked in boats from New York Island, and near Greenwich, and it was supposed they intended to attack Powles Hook, but in the afternoon they disembarked, and gave over the attempt for that time. The ~~in~~ cident was described in this

~~New York~~ report from an officer with our troops at Powles Hook--As no reinforcement could be sent us, we received orders this morning to remove our artillery, stores and baggage and hold ourselves in readiness.

About nine AM we saw the enemy embarking in flat-bottomed boats about two miles above us, who appeared in large numbers on the shore after their boats, about thirty, were full. Four ships at the same time came to sail below, and stood up towards us, but they soon came to anchor again, and the boats which had pushed off returned back. Had they come at this time, we must either have retired and left them large quantities of artillery stores, or fought their army and navy at the same time with our small detachment and that under every disadvantage, but they thought fit to retire to get in more strength, as appeared afterwards, though they could not be ignorant of our weakness, the men being guarded every day in full view of them.

September 23, 1776 British forces attack Powles Hook

Powles Hook, New York. The British warship Roebuck, with three other ships, came to opposite our battery at that post, and after discharging about one hundred cannon, landed near five hundred men, our people having evacuated the place some hours before, and carried off their artillery etc. They are now advantageously posted on the heights of the mill, about one mile from the enemy, and are busy throwing up entrenchments, having been reinforced with four thousand men.

British battery cannonades East River island

New York. A battery was opened up on a point of land on Long Island, by our enemies, opposite the east end of Blackwell's Island, which cannonaded our fort at Hoorn's Hook, but to little purpose, we having no more than two men killed and four wounded.

The following was written by an American officer:

A report from an officer with our troops at Powles Hook.

At one o'clock on having removed everything of value, we were ordered to retreat from the Hook. As soon as we began our march, four ships came up and anchored near the shore around the Hook, at the same time a great number of boats and floating batteries came down from just above New York, the latter ran up into the cove, opposite the causeway, that leads to Bergen. After taking a considerable time to see that there was nobody to hurt them, they began a most furious cannonade on our empty works, which continued till they had wearied themselves. In a word, they dared to come much nearer, and displayed the boasted British arms, and British valour in much brighter colors than ever. Meanwhile, our little battalion retreated, with drums beating and colors flying, to Bergen, and before night the main

Britons ventured on shore, and took possession of our evacuated works, where they have taken every precaution to prevent our formidable detachment from returning and drawing them from a post which, with so great a display of heroism, they have got possession of.

The post we now possess covers the Jersies. Here we are reinforced by a number of regiments, more are daily coming in, the sick are recovering, the troops in high spirits, and we have no fear but we shall be able to maintain our ground against the banditti of George the Third.

Providence, Rhode Island. The Columbus vessel of war has sent a prize brig into Newport, loaded with lumber.

A report arrives from Ticonderoga

Ticonderoga. A correspondent reports that our sick decrease fast, and the army is in high spirits, but whether we shall have the pleasure of giving Burgoyne a rap upon his knuckles is uncertain, as at present he does not seem disposed to come this way. A sergeant who deserted from the British army at Point aux Trembles, between Montreal and Sorel, the 31 of August says that Colonel McLane's regiment was quartered at Point aux Trembles, 1200 foreigners are at Quebec, all the 34th at Montreal, except two companies with Colonel Johnson and his Indians at Le Chien. That he heard the officers compute their army at seven thousand, in which were the 9th 20th,21st,24th,29th,31st,34th,49th and the Germans. There are none of the Canadians in the King of England's service, but they are in a worse situation than the children of Israel in Egypt, for the British regulars have robbed them of every necessary of life, and now compel them to work without any prospect of reward. They universally

wish we were in possession of their country again, declaring their eyes are now fully opened. That Burgoyne had a few gondolas, two sloops, and a floating battery building at St. Johns. That he frequently heard it said they were to cross the lake to Crown Point, as soon as their naval preparations were perfected. That the troops in general were very sickly, the foreigners in particular being afflicted with fever and flux. And that fifty of the soldiers had signed an agreement to desert together, but being destroyed by one of their accomplices, some of them were condemned to be sent to Senegal, and there to serve during life.

Martha Washington Visits Baltimore

Baltimore. The lady of his Execellency General Washington arrived here from Philadelphia, accompanied by Thomas Nelson Junior Esq. a delegate from Virginia, and his lady and four other people. They proceed for Alexandria.

September 24, 1776 Enemy vessels reported destroyed by Gen. Arnold

Lake Champlain. It is reported that General Arnold has lately destroyed most of the enemy's boats at the north end of Lake Champlain and made prisoners of six hundred English, Scotch and Hessian soldiers on a small island in the lake.

Rhode Island troops coming to assistance of New York

New Haven. A regiment of troops from Rhode Island under Colonel Lippet's command arrived here on their way to our encampment near New York.

September 25, 1776 **Sullivam is exchanged by British**

New York. Brigadier General Sullivan who was lately taken by the King's troops on Long Island, was exchanged for General Prescot who commanded at Chamblee. General McDonald would not be accepted for Lord Sterling.

Connecticut troops coming to assist nce of New York

New Haven. The eastern milita of Connecticut as well as cavalry and foot, have passed through this town on their way to join the American army near New York.

Odiorne takes another enemy ship

Boston. Captain Odiorne in the Washington privateer, carried into Newburyport, a bark from New York bound to St. Vincents with provisions for one hundred twenty men for six months. She sailed in company with five or six transports, under convoy of the Solebay frigate, in order to fetch troops from thence.

September 26, 1776 Taxes levied without consent are oppressive

Philadelphia. Congress resolved that it is the sacred right of free men to give and grant their own money and that all taxes levied without their consent are arbitrary and oppressive. And that no free man can be constitutionally restrained of his liberty, or be sentenced to any penalties or punishment whatsoever, but by the judgement of his peers, and a trial by jury.

Indians scalp an American soldier

Philadelphia. A soldier belonging to Captain Gilmore's company was killed and scalped near the main camp of our army on the south west frontier. One inhabitant killed, another taken prisoner.

French schooner taken by British is recaptured

Boston. A French schooner which sailed from Newburyport about a month ago was taken by one of the ministerial pirates, retaken by the Washington and is now safe arrived there.

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September 27, 1776 **Indian attack is prevented in North Carolina**

Broad River, North Carolina. Our spies came in, and informed that they had discovered the tracks of a large party of the enemy making towards the settlements upon which that very same evening we went in quest of them, with about five hundred men who after marching part of the night and most of the next day, found that the enemy had tacked about suddenly, and made off towards their towns.

September 28, 1776 A review of news from New York is published

New York. Advices from the camp at Harlem near New York say that the enemy, from their recent maneuvers and great preparations intended to make a decisive blow. Their plan is to outflank and hem our people in, but it is thought they will be disappointed for the heights above Harlem and Kingsbridge are strongly manned and fortified, and all the points up to Frog's Hook securely picketted, the avenues blocked, and the roads cut up, to prevent the approaches of their artillery. That they have opened the Courts of Justice upon Long Island in which Mr. Ludlow presides as chief judge, they have confiscated several estates and condemned one man to perpetual confinement to linger out his life in chains, and to be fed on bread and water. They carry a high hand, and flushed with the success which nature, and not their own strength has given them, they think in a little time to sweep off our army, and be in possession of America. That old Oliver de Lancey is a colonel, that Colonel Woodhull, late president of New York Congress is killed and that Governor Tryon lies at the point of death. That General Howe had ordered the militia on Long Island to muster from which draughts are to be made if a sufficient number of volunteers do not appear to fight against their American brethren. That on the 20th instant a fire broke out in New York which consumed all that part of the city near the North River; the old English and Lutheran churches are both burnt and so down to Whitehall.

September 29, 1776 Phila will name vessel after a hero

Philadelphia. An armed vessel is fitting out in this city which will be called the Parry, in honor of the late gallant Colonel Parry of this state, who fell on Long Island the 27 of August last, nobly contending for the freedom and independence of his country.

French reported indulging American vessels

Providence. Captain Gideon Crawford arrived here from Nantz in France, after a passage of eight weeks. He informs that great warlike preparations continue to be made in that kingdom, where every kind of indulgence is shown to American vessels. He also advises that he saw an account in a French paper, of the Marlborough, a ninety gun ship being blown up at Plymouth some time in July last, and that a great part of the crew perished.

September 30, 1776

American officers from New York report to Congress

Philadelphia. Brigadier General Mifflin, Colonel Penraic, and Major Williams from the American camp at Harlem arrived here today.

October 1, 1776 Troops in North Carolina prepare for Indian battles

Broad River, North Carolina. Our whole army consisting of about two thousand men healthy, well equipped, and in high spirits, crossed the river, together with pack horses and bullocks, and Colonel Christian expected to be in 8 or 10 days, within forty miles of the enemy's towns, where he had information they intended to fight him.

October 2, 1776

Blankets are needed for army, donations requested

Philadelphia. There being a most pressing necessity for blankets for the use of the army, which is suffering much through the want of them, it is hoped that humanity as well as regard for the public cause will induce all persons who have spare blankets, to accomodate the troops with them.

American privateer captures British ship, troops aboard

Boston. Captain Squire in a privateer belonging to this state, has just taken a large ship from Halifax bound to New York with a number of Light Horse on board, and sent her into Townshend.

October 3, 1776 **Congress floats a large loan**

Philadelphia. Congress resolved that five millions of continental dollars be immediately borrowed for the use of the United States at the annual interest of four percent.

October 4, 1776 Two more prizes taken by American privateers

Boston, Massachusetts. Was sent into Marblehead by Captain Greely in the privateer Speedwell, fitted out from this place, a prize snow from England bound for New York. She has on board bread, pork, peas, oatmeal, beef, flour, rice, oil, vinegar, spirits, butter, candles. Captain Silas Atkins took into Boston a prize ship with much the same articles as above on board, also bound for New York.

Noted enemy ship, Milford, is captured

Newburyport, Massachusetts. It is reported here that some days ago an engagement happened between two of our privateers and the Milford (a noted pirate that has long infested our coast) when, after warmly disputing the point by hard blows, the latter thought it prudent to submit, and we hear our people are now bringing her into some safe port. We hear that a large ship from the West Indies with several families and considerable plate on board, is arrived at Cape Ann, sent in by one of our privateers.

October 5, 1776 **Gen. Gates reports good morale at Ticonderoga**

Ticonderoga. A letter from General Gates to the Honorable Governor Trumbull of Connecticut, mentions that our army at that place consists of eight thousand five hundred men fit for duty and in high spirits.

Nickerson takes a prize vessel

New London. Captain Nickerson in the privateer sloop America belonging to Plymouth, sent in a large prize including logwood and mahogany in its cargo.

October 6, 1776 British ministry reported to fear conspiracies

Boston. The prize taken by Captain Greely, and sent first into Marblehead has since come round here. She has papers to the middle of August, which gave particular accounts of the Spaniards invading the kingdom of Portugal, and taking possession of several towns. The inference is plain, war is or must be declared. The mate of a London ship brought up this evening by Captain Atkins, informs, that the Ministry are so suspicious of plots and conspiracies being laid, that four persons dare not be seen conversing together in London, for they are immediately dispersed. A privateer is just arrived at Salem after taking three prizes, one of which is loaded with dry goods to the amount of thirty seven thousand pounds sterling. This fine prize has not yet arrived. A day seldom passes without provisions, vessels, Jamaica men, Londoners, or something is taken.

John Harm, American privateer, takes two prizes

Portsmouth, New Hampshire. A small prize schooner was sent in yesterday by the Putnam, John Harm commander, having a great deal of salt and some oil. The same privateer sent in another schooner today, with fish and oil on board.

John Paul Jones returns from successful cruise

Newport. The Continental Sloop Providence, Captain Jones, arrived at safe port having in a cruise of five weeks captured sixteen sail of vessels, six of which he burnt. Among the others is one ship with three thousand quintals of codfish which is also arrived in a safe port, some smaller fishermen and two West India men.

October 7, 1776 New York

Commander of Virginia forces coming to assistance of/ Philadelphia. General Lee arrived here and he will soon set out for the army near New York.

British successes in New York are reported by an enemy officer to a London newspaper / New York. ~~A letter from British officer to London~~ -His Majesty's forces are now in possession of the city of New York Island. They are also in possession of Powles Hook, and command the East River and Connecticut sound. All this has been obtained with very little difficulty and loss in the part of the troops; the rebels after the battle, or rather routed the twenty seventh of August, having never attempted to face the soldiers, but fled every way with the utmost precipitation. They quitted works which they had been laboring upon during the whole summer without scarce the conflict of a day. The King's forces are in remarkable good health and spirits, and seem resolved to convince the world that they not only bear the name but the nature of Briton, and while that they fight with their usual ardor in the cause of the King and constitution, they know how to treat even dangerous rebels with pity and humanity. They consider that many of them are influenced by designing men, who under pretence of patriotism, are sacrificing the interest and happiness of the continent to their ambition.

The King's troops have not sustained the loss of one hundred men, where the rebels by the best account cannot have lost fewer than between four and five thousand killed, wounded, taken prisoner and to mention ~~not hering~~ nothing of deserters.

So vast a fleet was never seen together in this port or pernaps in America before. The ships are stationed to the East River or Sound as far as Turtle Bay, and near the town, the multitude of

masts carries the appearance of a wood. Some are moored up the North River, others in the Bay between Red and Yellow Hook, some again off Staten Island, and several off Powles Hook, and towards the Kill. The men of war are moored chiefly up New York Sound, and make with the other ships, a very magnificent and formidable appearance. Five men of war have been detached from the squadron into the North River above Greenwich, probably to assist the operations of the army against the rebels, who still remain at the Northern extremity of this island on the heights above Kingsbridge.

It is said the Flora frigate of thirty guns commanded by Captain Brisbane is preparing to sail with several transports under convoy.

We are informed by a gentleman just escaped New England, that the rebels have lately carried many hundred head of cattle from the east end of Long Island to New London in Connecticut and that their privateers are very busy in negotiating with this kind of business, and have moreover committed some of their usual tryannical and oppressive acts upon several royal subjects in those parts.

The savage burning of this city by the New England incendiaries will be a lasting monument of their inveterate malice against the Trade and prosperity of this colony as well as of their rooted disaffection to British law and government. They had long threatened the performance of this villainous deed and this is the best return that the people of property in this city who have espoused their cause are to expect for their heedless credulity.

On Thursday arrived here from England a number of transports under convoy, having on board the Seventeenth regiment of Light Horse, under Lieutenant Colonel Harcourt.

October 8, 1776 Burgoyne's Light Horse troops arrive in New York

New York. Besides the damage done in New York, Pearl Street was as well destroyed, and several persons are in jail on that account. Also a number of British transports with troops, among which are Burgoyne's Light Horse, have arrived at New York.

British capture four vessels; we retaliate

Newport, Rhode Island. Two of the enemy's ships took four vessels off Mantagur Point, three of which were prizes to Captain Munro and some other privateers, the other a merchantman belonging to these vessels. The crew, we hear, took to their boats and got safe near Stonington.

A large prize brig with stores for the British army at New York is sent into Dartmouth and last Thursday when Captain Starbuck left Nantucket, there were three topsail vessels in sight, possibly prizes.

Capt. Forrester takes a British brig

Falmouth, Casco Bay. Arrived a large brig, the Mary and James, commanded by Thomas More. She was from Falmouth in England, bound to Naples, laden with nails, and boxes of goods, cocoa, pepper, aluminum, tin, lead etc. taken by Captain Simon Forrester, in the privateer sloop Rover from Salem.

October 9, 1776

NEW YORK.

Enemy is attacking again in New York action

The Brisith have resumed the offensive in New York, with Admiral Howe sending his frigates up the Hudson.

Capt.Parker takes two British schooners

Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Arrived into port two prize schooners--the Glasgow and the Neptune, taken off the banks of Newfoundland by Captain Robert Parker.

Gen. Stirling is freed by British

New York. The American General, Lord Stirling, who was taken by the British in the defeat of our forces on Long Island, was released today in an exchange of prisoners.

October 10, 1776 Indians avoid fighting our troops in N. Carolina

Broad River, North Carolina. A white man came with a flag from the Raven, a Chote Indian warrior, desiring peace, ~~replied~~ Colonel Christian replied that they must first deliver up Cameron the incendiary and our prisoners in their nation, and lay down the hatchet. Otherwise he should cross the river and lay waste their towns, only extending mercy to such as had behaved well to the states of America. The man who came with the flag informed the Colonel that the advanced parties of the enemy were about his camp, and that the whole strength of the Indian nation would be ready to dispute his crossing the river. This determined the Colonel immediately to set about finding a proper ford, which his lookouts were fortunate enough to discover by seeing four Indians pass over. He set out with between ten and eleven hundred men, two hundred of them on horseback, and by one o'clock in the morning got safely over, not without much danger and difficulty, the river being about half a mile broad, deep and rapid, and the night very cold, so that none of the men could wade, and he was frequently obliged to make lights.

About an hour before day he marched to within a mile of the spot where he expected the enemy were encamped, and at sunrise surrounded the place, but found the Indians were gone; whereupon he ordered the remaining part of the army, with their provisions and baggage to be brought over, which was happily effected. That day the Colonel was informed by some spies that the whole of the nation was near him, with a determined resolution to attack him, and to skirmish with him on his march to the towns.

One of their principal views was to destroy the cattle and horses and were resolved to make no peace, but to fight and retreat.

Colonel Christian was then preparing to march, but a flag came in from the Raven warrior, that he had turned all of his nation that he had influence over, and moved off with his men from the Indian camp. No general battle will be fought until our army crosses the Tennessee, or towards Hywasses, if the Colonel follows the enemy there.

October 11, 1776

Lake Champlain.

British have Pyrrhic victory at Valcour Island

British Generals Guy Carleton and John Burgoyne, trying to move southward from Canada against Fort Ticonderoga, and having constructed a fleet to gain control of the waters of Lake Champlain, met at Valcour Island a fleet built in recent weeks by Benedict Arnold. Outmanned and outgunned, especially since the British ships are manned by officers and men of the Royal Navy recently arrived from England, Arnold has been decisively defeated, but his heroic action has delayed the British and they have decided not to venture forward against Ticonderoga this year.

British debts need not be paid, except for guardians and tuition

Philadelphia. Congress resolved that people owing money to Britons need not pay, except in the case of children who may be having guardians or schooling here or abroad.

October 12, 1776 Another major British assault expected in N.Y.

New York. About four thousand of the enemy landed at Frog's Point, but made no further progress. Our people had taken up a bridge, which was there, and felled trees across the road, to obstruct them till a reinforcement could arrive. In the afternoon forty two sail passed the mouth of the Harlem River, on their way to the Point. They consisted of sloops, schooners, brigs, and nine ships. It is expected there will be bloody work there today. From the number of men landed, and the ships that went up, this can be no feint, but the main body of Howe's army must be there, and he intends to make his coup. This week will probably finish the campaign.

Tories are apprehended carrying papers for enemy

New London. The wife and daughter of one John Hill, a prisoner confined in Boston jail for being concerned with Crean Brush and others in robbing the inhabitants of Boston when that place was evacuated, came to this town from Providence by water, and trying to get passage to the west end of Long Island, but were stopped by the committee of this town. There were found upon them sundry papers containing matters of intelligence respecting the people and state of the country sent from said Hill and others in Boston, to General Howe.

American privateers take two more prizes

Providence. Captain Coffin in the Favorite, privateer of this port, took a ship bound for London headed from Jamaica.

Captain Arthur Crawford of this place has taken and sent into port a London ship bound for Quebec with blankets, woolen cloths, Irish linens, sheeting, shoes, stockings, boots, brandy port wine, bottled porter, cheese, worth 15 thousand pound sterling.

~~Gunboat~~ American privateer takes fishing schooner Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Another small prize schooner with two hundred quintals of fish was brought in by Captain Carlton, in the General Gates.

battle is revealed

October 13, 1776 General Arnold's great skill in Lake Champlain/
Valcour Island, Lake Champlain. On the 11th, at 8 o'clock in the morning, the enemy's fleet consisting of one ship mounting sixteen guns, one snow mounting the same number, one schooner of fourteen guns, two of twelve, two sloops, a bomb ketch, and a large vessel, her force unknown, with 15 or 20 flat bottomed boats or gondolas, carrying one twelve or eighteen pounder in their bows, appeared off Cumberland Head. General Arnold with his forces, immediately prepared to Receive them. At eleven o'clock the attack began, at half past twelve the engagement became general and very warm. Some of the enemy's ships, all their gondolas, beat up and rowed within musket shot of our fleet. They continued a very hot fire with round and grape shot til five o'clock, when they thought proper to retire about six or seven hundred yards distance, and continued there until dark. General Arnold and his troops conducted themselves during this action with great firmness and intrepidity, and made a better resistance than could have been expected against a force so greatly superior. The whole of our killed and wounded amounted to about sixty. The Philadelphia gondola and a schooner were lost in the engagement, but all the men were saved. The enemy landed a large number of Indians on Schuyler's Island, and on each shore, who kept up an incessant fire, but did little damage. The enemy had to appearance upwards of one thousand men in batteaus prepared for boarding.

The enemy's force being so greatly superior, it was determined in council to remove to Crown Point, in order to refit and collect our force. At two o'clock PM on the 12th, our fleet weighted anchor,

with a fresh breeze to the southward. The enemy's fleet at the same time got under way, our gondolas made very little way head. In the evening the wind moderated and we made such progress that at six next morning we were about twenty eight miles from Crown Point. The enemy's fleet was very little above Schuyler's Island. The wind breezed up to the southward, so that we gained very little by beating or rowing, at the same time the enemy took a fresh breeze, from the N.E. and by the time we had reached Split Rock, were along side of us. The Washington and the Congress were in the rear, and the rest of our fleet were ahead except two gondolas sunk at Schuyler's Island. The Washington galley was in such a shattered condition and had so many men killed and wounded, that she struck to the enemy after receiving a few broadside. The Congress was then attacked by a ship mounting twelve eighteen pounder, a schooner of fourteen sixes, and one of twelve sixes, two under her stern, and one on her broadside within musket shot. The enemy kept up an incessant fire about five glasses with round and grapeshot, which was returned briskly. The sails, rigging, and hull of the Congress were shattered and torn in pieces, when, to prevent her falling into the enemy's hands, General Arnold who was on board ran her into shore in a small creek 10 miles from Crown Point, where after taking out her small arms, she was set on fire, with four other gondolas, with whose crews the General reached Crown Point that evening, luckily escaping the savages, who waylaid the road in two hours after he had passed it. Of our whole fleet we have saved two gallies, schooners, one gondola, and one sloop.

General Arnold behaved with such intrepidity that he covered the retreat of the few vessels we saved at the expense of one third of his crew. Our commanders and men behaved most gallantly. Some vessels, having lost all their officers, fought notwithstanding, and refused to yield but with their lives. The enemy acknowledge our bravery, and confess their loss of men equal to ours.

Our troops are now busily employed in completing the lines, redoubts, etc. at Crown Point, expecting the enemy to attack them with their fleet and army, but as the season is now far advanced, and our men are daily growing in health, they have the most flattering expectations of maintaining their post against any force the enemy can bring. Two of the enemy's gondolas were sunk the first day by our fleet and one blown up with sixty men.

October 14, 1776 Enemy forces repulsed in New York skirmish

New York. The detachment from General Howe's army, which landed at Frog's Point, was attacked by a party of General Washington's which obliged them to retreat under cover of their ships. Another British detachment was also beat off and prevented from landing on the banks of the North River. (See Nov. 1 for follow-up)

American privateer takes ship after two hour battle

Falmouth, Casco Bay. Arrived a large ship bound to London laden with five hundred hogshead of sugar and fifty ditto of rum, taken by the privateer Retaliation from Beverly, Giles commander. The ship mounted six carriage guns, and fought the privateer two hours before she struck.

Forrester takes another brig, and Atkins a fishing schooner

Boston. Was sent into Salem, by Captain Forrester, a prize brig, with sea coal and woolen cloths. Yesterday Captain Silas Atkins sent into Cape Ann a ship with four hundred or so quintals of fish.

Woman steals plates from shop

Philadelphia. Stolen, out of a house near the Coffee Shop in Front Street, supposed by a woman who was seen going out of the door in a great hurry, a copper plate, purple and white calico field bed, furniture bound with white tape. It is a very remarkable pattern and a remnant of same may be seen at the shop. If it should be offered for sale whoever stops this person shall have four dollars reward.

October 15, 1776 **Indians retreat in face of Christian's attack** (see Oct 10)

Hywassee, North Carolina. Colonel Christian passed the Tennessee River without any molestation from the enemy, and after marching through several Indian towns he at length arrived safely in the Island town, the lowermost one on the river; which he found had been precipitately abandoned, the Indians having only had time to carry off their clothes and the best of their household goods, with which they pushed off in canoes down the Tennessee. They left behind them their horses, cattle, hogs, fowls, and even dogs, with their whole crops of corn and potatoes, which the Colonel learned was a very great one. He expected at his camp in the Island Town, the next day, the Raven warriors of Chote, with Oucanastota, the Little Carpenter, and a number of other chiefs, having given them to understand that if they did not immediately come in and make submission and agree to such terms as he should deem to be reasonable, that he would lay waste all the towns, and pursue their fugitive countrymen as far as the Creek nation.

The Colonel thinks it probable he may enter into a treaty with them as he has good reason to believe that all the old warriors had been averse to the war, and that the rest were stirred up by Cameron, by bribes and threats. Two of his scouts on the road to Hywassee, found an old woman and two children in the woods, almost famished with hunger and cold, having been out six days and nights without fire or provisions of any kind except berries and haws. The soldiers took compassion upon the poor wretches, made them a fire and gave them victuals. They also met a young man who had lost his wife and was then in search of her. They called up to him to come to them, on which he clubbed his gun and came up. He informed

that the villian Cameron pushed off to the Creek nation as soon as he heard Colonel Christian had crossed Broad river.

October 1, 1

Our troops engage Hessians on Staten Island

Brunswick, New Jersey. A firing from Staten Island was heard here, and as all Hessians had not left the island, it was supposed to be an engagement betwixt them and a party of our army which went over the night before.

New Hampshire will raise new army

Exetor, New Hampshire. The General Assembly of New Hampshire met in consequence of a resolve of Congress relative to forming a new army.

October 17, 1776 British newspaper prints biography of Washington

London.

The London Chronicle published this biography of General Washington, Commander in Chief of the American Army.

General Washington was born at Coventry about the year 1709, his father having settled there from Boston in Lincolnshire the beginning of Queen Ann's reign. His mother was niece to the famous General Monk, afterwards Duke of Albermarle. At 18 he began a military life, by entering himself as a private in Wade's troop of horse. He afterwards purchased a cornetcy in the same troop, where he continued to serve till after the late rebellion, when that troop being broke, he went abroad, and the beginning of the late war was promoted in America, where he served in the capacity of a colonel, with signal courage and fidelity, which so endeared him to that people, that they unanimously chose him to the chief command upon the present contest. Several of his relations now reside at Coventry, and a nephew of his is a member of that corporation.

Capt. Newman takes a prize

Newburyport. Came in here a prize brig, bound to White Haven, laden chiefly with mahogany, taken a fortnight ago by the Hancock, Captain Wingate Newman.

Battle of White Plains (See pg. 1)

October 18, 1776 American privateers continue to enjoy successes

New London. The Montgomery privateer belonging to Providence has taken and sent into this port a schooner. The privateer had been out only twenty four hours. Also, the Continental brig Cabot, Captain Elisha Hinman, has taken seven prizes.

Prize ship is for sale

Philadelphia. The ship Caroline of London will be sold at public vendue, lately made a prize by the Harlequin privateer, Captain Woolsey of Baltimore, with her sails, rigging and materials, being about two hundred tons burthen. Plantation built, about six years old, but having been stranded on the coast of England, has been since rebuilt and her keel, stern, sternpost, many of her timbers, of English oak, she is supposed to be equal if not superior to a new American built vessel. An inventory of her sail, rigging and materials, may be seen at the suscribers, or on board said ship. At the same time will be sold part of her cargo.

October 19, 1776 British reconnoitre on Lake Champlain

Mount Independence. A large body of the enemy appeared yesterday in boats coming down the lake, who soon after landed to the number of about 4,000 men on Three Mile Point in full view of Mount Independence. Soon after which, 2 or 3 boats came down from the main body, to reconnoitre and view the boom which our people have fixed across the lake from the old French lines to the eastern shore, to prevent their shipping from approaching our fortifications, one of which boats came so near as to be within reach of our cannon, when she was so warmly fired upon from one of our redoubts, that she was obliged to quit her station, with the loss of one man killed, and several wounded. The evening after they landed they retired out of sight, and we are told, the whole army under General Burgoyne, have left the above place as well as Crown Point, but what route they have taken is not known.

British ,learning of Long Island victory, celebrate

Newcastle, England. At the news of the defeat of the Americans on Long Island there was a noisy celebration.

Enemy ships appear off Massachusetts

Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. Two ships of war are now passing our quarter and standing along shore to the southward. We suppose they are bound to the Capes. A fleet of sixty four sail now lies at Sandy Hook, inward bound.

Nov 21 declared Thanksgiving Day in New Hampshire

Portsmouth, New Hampshire. The General Assembly of New Hampshire has appointed Thursday the 21st of November as a day of public thanksgiving throughout the state.

October 20, 1776 General Howe is reported a casualty

Fort Lee. A deserter at headquarters informs that the loss of the enemy ~~on Friday~~ at Fort's Neck was seven or eight hundred. That in the cannonade after the battle, General Howe had his leg very dangerously shattered by a ball, which killed a soldier who stood near him. Last night a party of Rangers under Major Rogers, having advanced towards Mamoreneck were attacked and defeated by a party of our forces. Thirty six taken prisoner and the number of slain about sixty, since as many arms and blankets found on the field. As the corps is composed of Tories, this victory is even more glorious. Our army is in high spirits. (See Nov 1 for more details)

British release Americans taken prisoner on Lake Champlain

New Haven. General Waterbury with one hundred of our people who were taken prisoners in our unsuccessful engagement on Lake Champlain, the 11th and 12th, are released on giving their parole and are now on their way home.

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October 21, 1776 Americans skirmish successfully with British on Staten Island

Philadelphia. Intelligence received in Congress--General Mercer passed over to Staten Island on the 18th with part of the troops posted at Perth Amboy, and advanced within a few miles of Richmond town. Having been informed that a company of British troops, one of Hessians, and one of Skinner's militia lay there, Colonel Griffin was detached with Colonel Patterson's battalion and Major Clarke, at the head of some riflemen, to fall in upon the east end of the town, while the remainder of the troops enclosed it on the other quarters. Both divisions reached the town by break of day, but not before the enemy were alarmed. Most of them fled after exchanging a few shot with Colonel Griffin's detachment. Two soldiers of the enemy were mortally wounded, and seventeen taken prisoner, with the loss of only two soldiers killed on our side. Colonel Griffin received a wound in the foot from a musket ball, and Lieutenant Colonel Smith was slightly wounded in the arm. Amongst the prisoners taken in this action are 8 Hessians. Our troops brought off from Staten Island 45 muskets, a number of bayonets, cutlasses, etc. and one standard of the British Light Horse.

It has been determined in council of war at Headquarters to remove the army from the heights of Harlem, towards East and Westchester in order to outflank the enemy, and disappoint their intention.

On [redacted] the 18th one of the enemy's advanced parties near East Chester fell in with part of Colonel Glovers brigade, when a smart and close engagement ensued in which our men behaved with great coolness and intrepidity and drove the enemy back to their main body. (See UN 1 for more on Battle of White Plains.)

October 22, 1776 Providence and Warren are praised for their successes

Providence. Report from a correspondent--The frigate Providence is gone to Newport, the Warren was under sail last Saturday and outsails all the boats in the river, upon a wind, without mainsail or topgallant sails being set. How the Providence sails I know not, as she went down before the wind, directly from me.

They are two very fine ships, a credit to our little state. There has been brought into this port thirty two prizes, a pretty good beginning. There is now fitting out, two twenty gun ships and there will be soon two new brigs built on purpose for the business, to mount eighteen six pounders each. The addition to our fleet will make no small show upon the list of our naval department.

British cannot prevent Hessians from plundering

New York. A correspondent from our camp near New York says the Hessians plunder all indiscriminately, Tories as well as Whigs. If they see anything they want, they seize it, and say "good for Hesseeman." A Tory complained to General Howe that he was plundered by the Hessians. The General said he could not help it, it was their way of making war. So the friends of government are protected. This is a great encouragement for the Tories.

October 23, 1776 British are stalled at Lake Champlain

Ticonderoga. It is learned that Carlton's army is at Crown Point, from whence there is little probability of their advancing this winter, as the weather is very severe, which greatly affects the soldiers, the English in particular. General Gates' army is in high spirits, but disappointed at the enemy's not attacking the forts as they are well prepared to give them proper reception.

Hawthorne and Carleton suffer reverses; Atkins succeeds again

Boston. Captain Daniel Hawthorne arrived at Salem from a cruise, On his passage he met with an armed packet, which he attacked. In the engagement which lasted two hours, he lost three men killed and nine or ten wounded, himself slightly, since which he has taken and sent into Cape Ann, a prize snow with oats.

The privateer commanded by Captain Carleton, which sailed from Salem on a cruise about four weeks since was taken near Canceay by the brig Hope, Captain Dawson, a few days after leaving port, and carried into Halifax, Captain Carleton with some of her crew, made their escape by swimming ashore.

Last Thursday ~~was brought into this harbor by Captain Silas Atkins, a brig from Newfoundland, with 1500 quintals of green codfish.~~

~~The same day~~ was sent into Hayhanness by Captain Atkins, the ship Leafield from Ireland, bound to New York, having on board, seventy puncheons of spirits, seventy ditto of porter, three hundred and fifty pieces of bread, fifty ditto oat meal, pease, pork, beef, butter, sweet oil, raisin, candles, flour, and a number of other articles.

Yesterday arrived in this port, a prize ship from Antigua, for London, with about two hundred hogsheads of sugar. She was taken by the Putnam.

Battle of White Plains (See Nov 1)

Continental currency regains value after plunging

New York. On the evacuation of our fortresses on Long Island the Continental currency sunk in its value one thousand percent but now it has gained its nominal value, and passes currently among the British troops and Tories as well as among our friends. What was the occasion of this strange turn is a matter of much speculation.

October 24, 1776

Russian offer of troops to Britain is declined

Boston. By a gentleman who was lately taken in one of the prizes we learn that the Empress of Russia had offered his Majesty, from 20,000 to 100,000 men for the service of America, but that the people in England seemed rather averse to bringing any more troops, being already burthened with taxes.

Captain Lee takes a prize vessel

Newburyport. Arrived here the ship Nancy, John Cowan master, burthen about two hundred tons, bound from Cork to Quebec, taken by Captain John Lee of this place. Her cargo consists of the following artiles viz, eighty barrels of beef, pork, butter, oatmeal, pease, bread, nails, gunpowder, armchest with balls, carriage guns, swivel.

October 25, 1776

Skirmishes are reported at New Rochelle

New York. The situation of the enemy's army remains nearly the same as on the 21st instant, it differs in nothing unless it is that their main body is more collected about New Rochelle. On Monday night a detachment of our men under the command of Colonel Hazlet, was sent out to surprise and cut off Major Rogers if possible with his regiment, which was posted there. By some accident the expedition did not succeed as well as could have been wished. However, our advanced party led on by Major Green of the First Virginia regiment, fell in with their guard, and brought off thirty six prisoners and sixty muskets. The number killed is not certainly known, but it is reported by an officer who was there that he counted about twenty five. Our loss is two killed and ten or twelve wounded. On Wednesday there was also a small skirmish between a party of Colonel Hand's riflemen, about two hundred forty, and nearly the same numbers of Hessian Chasseurs, in which the latter were put to the rout. Our men buried ten of them on the field, and took two prisoners, one badly wounded. We sustained no other loss than having one lad wounded, supposed mortally. (See NN1 for more on Battle of White Plains)

Settlers on western frontier slain by Indians

Williamsburg. By agent from Fort Pitt we learn that settlers at the mouth of Weeling, about fifty miles below that post, were killed by the Taawahs, Wyandots, Mingoes and other disaffected Indians, on the ninth.

Privateer takes ships off English Channel

Salem. A privateer from here has taken in the Chops of the Channel of England two ships, one from Jamaica inward bound, the other outward bound.

October 26, 1776 Pearce and Stacey take prizes

Newport. Arrived at neighboring ports a large brig loaded with naval stores taken by Captain Pearce, and another loaded with provisions, bound to New York or Quebec, taken by Captain Stacey.

Denny takes his ninth

Philadelphia. Was sent in here by the Hancock of this port, the brig Polly, Captain Denny, from Barbados for Liverpool, with sixty hogsheads of sugar, and forty bales of cotton on board. This is the ninth prize taken by the Hancock since she sailed from this port.

October 27, 1776 Fort Washington reported to withstand British attack

Fort Lee. A ship moved up the river early in the morning, above our lower lines, right opposite to Fort No.I near old headquarter at Morris's. She began a brisk cannonade upon the shore. Colonel Magaw, who commands at Fort Washington, got down an eighteen pounder, and fired sixty rounds at her, twenty six went through her. The gun was mostly loaded with two balls. She was annoyed considerably by the two eighteen pounders from the shore. The confusion and distress that appeared on board the ship exceeds all description. Without doubt she lost a great number of men. She was towed off by four boats sent from the other ships to her assistance. She slipt her cable, and left her anchor. Had the tide run flood one half hour longer, we should have sunk her. At the same time the fire from the ships began, the enemy brought up their field pieces and made disposition to attack the lines. But Colonel Magaw had so happily disposed and arranged his men, as to put them out of conceit of that maneuver. A cannonade and fire with small arms continued almost all day, with very little intermission. We lost one man only. Several of the enemy were killed, two or three of our people took and brought off the field, and several more were left there. The troops of our army are in good spirits, and in every engagement, since the retreat from New York, have given the enemy a drubbing. (See Nov1 for more)

October 28, 1776 Americans report successful skirmishes at White Plains

White Plains. A correspondent reports to the New York Gazette--I have only to acquaint you, that since my arrival at the American camp, we have had several very successful skirmishes with the enemy in which the latter have lost seven hundred men, in killed and prisoners. Thirteen Waldeckers, seven Britons and two Troies were yesterday taken prisoner and brought into headquarters.

This day about ten o'clock the enemy advanced towards our lines, in full view of headquarters, while a large body approached to the right. The first were soon dispersed by our artillery. The latter attacked several of our regiments on the right, when a warm engagement began, and now continues with great fury. Tomorrow it is probable, will produce a general battle. (See Nov 1 for more details)

Colonel Smallwood is just come in, wounded in the arm and hip but not dangerously.

I must not omit mentioning that the enemy made an unsuccessful attempt against our lines at Harlem yesterday.

(The post being detained by desire of the General gives me an opportunity with a wooden pen on a drum head, to acquaint you that the part of our army which was engaged today was a brigade commanded by General McDougal composed of Webb's, Ritzma's, Smallwood's, Haslet's and Brook's regiments, Ritzma and Smallwood suffered most, on this occasion, sustaining with great patience and coolness a long and heavy fire and finally retreated, with great sullenness, being obliged to give way to superior force. The British army and auxiliaries are now encamped about one mile off our lines, and make a formidable appearance but from the spirit and temper of our troops I augur well of the event of another attack, which it is expected will commence tomorrow morning.)

October 29, 1776 British are reported victorious in skirmish at White Plains.

White Plains. A correspondent reports to the Pennsylvania Ledger--General McDougal's brigade, of which the Maryland regulars is a part, having laid in the woods for three nights two miles from this place, and to the right of the main body, as a covering party was ordered to advance along the road, about a mile, near a place called the Mile Stone, and there take post, which was accordingly done. The brigade was there joined by Hazlet's Delaware battalion, and a small regiment of militia from Connecticut. They were no sooner formed than the enemy began a heavy cannonade from a great number of field pieces advantageous disposed on several rising grounds, which was answered by the only two cannon wheel attended our brigade, little or no execution being done on either side, till Colonel Smallwood, with his Marylanders was ordered to march down the hill and attack the enemy, which they did, and a smart contest ensued, in which the enemy gave way, but rallying again, and attacking the right of the brigade, composed of the militia aforesaid, they got the advantage, and their situation being such, and being drawn up in a heavy column, only our regiment and another (Ritzma's) could come in for any part of the action. Those two brave regiments stood very heavy fire of their artillery and musquetry for about half an hour, when the whole brigade, being vastly outnumbered and cramped in respect of ground, were obliged to retreat. A reinforcement under General Putnam's not being able to get up in time to give the necessary assistance, this reinforcement was General Beall's brigade. The enemy now occupy the ground where we took post yesterday, and are a mile from our lines at the White Plains. Colonel Smallwood stayed upon the place of action some time after the retreat had begun, and received two wounds, one a flesh wound on his hip, the

other through his arm. He is, however, in good spirits, and I hope will soon be in condition to take the field again. All our officers and men behaved with their usual bravery. We have lost of our regiment Captain Bracco, killed in the retreat, Sergeants Belt and Westory killed. Captain Scott is mortally wounded, indeed I fear he is dead at this moment, Lieutenant Goldsmith badly wounded in the leg, and Lieutenant Waters leg broken to pieces. As near as I can guess, our regiment has near forty killed, wounded and missing. The enemy form a considerable body near to our main body and I expect every moment to see them attack.

October 30, 1776 **Parker has taken three prizes**

Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Was brought in here by Captain Robert Parker on the McClary, privateer, fitted out of this port, the ship Hero, Charles Harford master, with five hundred hogsheads of rum, bound from Jamaica to Quebec, but not being able to get up the river bore away for New York. Was taken in latitude 43.00 longitude 70.00.

Also arrived the prize Three Friends, Thomas Russel master, from St. Eustatia, to Ireland, laden with two hundred and ten hogsheads of sugar.

Also arrived the ship Live Oak late commanded by Captain Duncan, who died on his passage, from Honduras to London, laden with mahogany and logwood. Both the above taken near the banks of New Foundland, by the above mentioned privateer.

October 31, 1776

Enemy action again reported on Lake Champlain

Headquarters, Ticonderoga. On Monday morning our advance guard-boat down the lake made the signal for the approach of the enemy fleet. In about an hour, five of their largest boats or gondolas appeared in sight, and a number of troops, Indians and Canadians, were seen landing up on Three Mile Point. Soon after, two of the armed boats stood over to the east side of the lake, inclining upwards, as if sent to reconnitre. When they came considerably within shot, they were fixed upon from two redoubts very near the shore, and by a row gally that was stationed to cover the boom. They thereupon retired. In the meantime the enemy's troops were distinctly seen to land upon the back of the Point, and presently after thirteen small batteaus and birch canoes crossed from the west to the east side of the lake, into a bay about four miles below our redoubts.

Upon those threatenings of an attack, our line's redoubts and posts were all manned, and as the motions of the enemy force seemed to indicate they were gathering their main force upon the west side of the lake as if intending to make their push there, three regiments (Poor's, Read's, Greaton's) were ordered from Mount Independence to reinforce this side. The orders were instantly obeyed, and nothing could exceed the spirit and alertness which were shown by all officers and soldiers in executing every order that was given.

About four o'clock in the afternoon the boats and canoes that had passed to the west side of the lake returned and the enemy were seen plainly to reembark at the Three Mile Point. The guard boat was immediately ordered to resume her station, and by sunset it was observed that the body of the enemy had retired.

British king notes success in New York

London. Extract of a speech by King George III--

Although from unavoidable delays, the operations at New York could not begin before the month of August, the success in that province has been so important as to give the strongest hopes of the most decisive good consequences, but notwithstanding that fair prospect, we must at all events, prepare for another campaign.

American privateers take more prizes

Newport. Arrived a prize from Jamaica taken by the brig Cabot, Captain Hinman. About the same time Captain Job Pearce, in a private sloop of war, went up the east passage with a fine large brig loaded with fish, being his third prize safely arrived.

November 1, 1776 The American defeat at White Plains is important in detail

White Plains, New York. A recapitulation of the Battle of White Plains, beginning October 15, was published today:

About the 15th of October, the great movements of enemy up the Sound, their landing in large bodies at Frogs Point, and the intelligence which the Generals obtained that the enemy with their whole force were off against East Chester, and New Rochelle and that both the Lord and General Howe were there in person, gave the Generals full satisfaction, that General Howe's plan was to make a bold stroke, and hem in and cut off our army at once. General Lee thought that the situation of the army and the states of America was much too confined and that it could not be good policy to lie still in such a situation, or to hazard the great cause in which we were embarked, to the general action, in which if we should not succeed, the army might be lost, as a retreat would be extremely difficult, if not impossible. It was determined by the General therefore, to counteract the enemy by a general movement. General McDougal's brigade from the lines at Harlem, several regiments of militia at Fort Washington, and five or six regiments from the Jersey side, were ordered over Kingsbridge, and marched on towards the enemy, to counteract them in their operations. Generals Heath, Parsons, etc. with more than half the army were there before; General Lee also now took his post on that side not far from the enemy. On the 16th the Generals were all in council, and I suppose determined to leave Harlem, Fort Washington, and Kingsbridge, only with a garrison, and march into the country, to prevent the enemy from ravaging the coast and surrounding us, and by our movements, to lend them into the country. In the meantime the stores, baggage etc. were moved to places of safety with the greatest

expedition. General Lincoln had orders to post himself on Valentine Hill near Mile Square, and to cast up some works for defense, and redoubts were cast up on the hills and on all difficult passes on the road from Kingsbridge to Mile Square to secure our march.

On the 17th General Spencer's whole division had orders to march to Mile Square which we reached next day. Two brigades of that division encamped at Mile Square, on the left side of General Lincoln, and Lord Sterling marched on farther, and formed still on the left of them towards White Plains, making a front towards the enemy from East Chester almost to White Plains, on the east side of the highway, so as to secure the march of the troops behind us, on our right, and to defend the teams and waggons that brought on our sick,cannon, stores, etc. In this manner one division of the army passed another, till we extended from the Sound up to White Plains, and over to King's Street, not far from the Connecticut line, where General Parsons took his post, and till the last division on the right wing, which was General Lee's, reached the Plains and marched out westward between the main body of the army and the river. This was on the 25th and 26th of October. This left all the road from East Chester to Kingsbridge open to the enemy, excepting a few guards and a regiment at or near Fort Independence. This I have understood was Colonel Wyllys's,and that his orders were if the enemy came on too powerfully, to retreat to Fort Washington. General Green, I have understood, is at Fort Washington, with about sixteen hundred or two thousand men, and that the garrison is well supplied with provisions and warlike stores, so as to stand a long siege. They have a communication with the forts on the high rocks on the opposite shore. All the barracks and

preparations for winter we have been obliged to leave for the present. Our stores of every kind, as far as I can learn, have been brought off and sent to places of safety, our field artillery, with two double fortified twelve pounders, and one brass twenty four ditto, we have brought on with us.

While we were making this grand movement into the country the enemy were not idle, having collected their troops from all quarters at Frogs Point, and on board their ships which were ranged along shore, off against the Point, and opposite to East Chester. On the 18th day they began a cannonade from their shipping early in the day and landed some men on a point or neck of land near East Chester meeting house, and their main body advanced from Pells Neck out towards the great Post Road from Connecticut to New York. General Lee who had been watching their motions, had posted a regiment or two of men, with one of the rifle battalions, in a very advantageous manner to annoy them, and bring them into an ambush, which partly succeeded. A large advanced guard came forward with two parties on the right and left of them to flank and get round our people wherever small parties should appear to oppose them. A small party of our troops were sent forward to fire on the large advanced body of the enemy, and to divert and lead them on to a wall, behind which the regiments mentioned were principally secreted. The enemy came very near the wall, and received a general fire from our troops which broke their advanced party entirely, so that they ran back to the main body, formed and came on again in larger numbers, keeping up a heavy fire with field pieces on the walls and men, they advanced now very near and received a second fire, which entirely routed them again, and they retreated in a narrow lane by a wall, in a confused huddled

manner, near which were posted a large body of riflemen, and some companies of musket men, who at this favorite moment poured in upon them a most heavy fire once or twice, before they could get out of the way, and they were seen to sail in great numbers. The whole body of the enemy then advanced in solid columns, and large flanking parties advanced different ways to surround our men, they however kept the wall till the enemy advanced a third time, and after giving them several fires, they retreated by order from their officers. General Lee greatly commended the conduct of the men. The enemy were thought at the lowest computation to have lost five hundred men, some think not less than a thousand. We had but very few killed and as far as I can learn not more than fifty or sixty wounded. The enemy advanced on to a high point, or neck of land, not far from East Chester meeting house, from whence they were able to command the road with their field pieces, but they kept very much in a body, so that our people on Saturday and Sunday night the 19th and 20th of October, brought off more than one hundred barrels of pork that had been left in the store at East Chester, without any molestation. About the same time the enemy sent some light parties along the shore, as far as New Rochelle and Mamaraneck but their main body moved very little.

October 22--Thirty six of the enemy were taken and next morning brought into headquarters. They were Tory rangers who had enlisted under the infamous Major Rogers. One of them had been an officer in the New York service, and deserted from us not long since. Two or three of them, I have been told, were from Newtown in Connecticut.

October 23-- There was much cannonading and a smart engagement between a party of our men and the enemy. The enemy were beat leaving

thirteen Hessians dead on the field, whom our people buried, one wounded Lieutenant who was taken. Our people also found a Major's commission in the field, but whether it belonged to any of the slain or to some officer who might be wounded and carried off, they could not determine. In the action we had not one man killed on the ground, and only six or eight wounded, but one it was thought mortally.

Friday October 25--There was much firing from the ships, in honor to George III who came to the throne on the 25th of October, and the enemy advanced a little into the country, but with great precaution, having an advanced guard of two thousand men or more, with a number of excellent field pieces. At night they would halt on advantageous ground, with their cannon well mounted round them, and thus they have come on only a mile or two in a day, in the most cautious manner, with great art and generalship.

Sunday October 27 (Sabbath day)--The enemy sent up two ships to cut off the communication between Fort Washington and the Jersey shore, but lay so much below Fort Washington that they could not fire on them to good advantage; at the same time a general attack was made by the enemy on our lines at Harlem, but they were repulsed three times successively, and the last time went off in great confusion, and our troops pursued them some miles. It is said they lost eight or nine hundred men, that our men were not able to bury them the next day. The ships were soon so much mauled and damaged by our cannon that they were obliged to slip their cables and fall down the river. They were, it is said, greatly damaged, but neither of them sunk.

October 28--We had intelligence that the enemy with their whole body were advancing towards us, the army were immediately alarmed, and part of General Eadsworth's brigade with some other regiments, under the command of General Spencer, consisting in the whole of five or six hundred men, were set out as an advanced party to skirmish with the enemy, and harrass them in their march. We marched on to a hill, about one mile and a half from our lines, with an artillery company and two field pieces, and placed our selves behind walls and fences, in the best manner we could, to give the enemy trouble. About half after nine o'clock our advanced parties all came retreating in before the enemy, and the light parties of the enemy, with their advanced guard, consisting of two or three thousand, came in sight, and marched on briskly towards us, keeping the high grounds, and the light house pranced on a little, in the rear, making a very martial appearance, as our light parties came on to the hills and discovered where we were, the enemy began to cannonade us, and to fling shells from their hobits, and small mortars. Their light parties soon came on, and we firing upon them from the walls and fences, broke and scattered them at once but they would run from our front, and get round upon our wings to flank us, and as soon as our fire discovered where we were, the enemy's military would at once begin to play upon us in a most furious manner. We kept the wall till the enemy were just ready to surround us, and then we would retreat from one wall and hill to another, and maintain our ground there in the same manner till numbers were just ready to surround us. Once the Hessian grenadiers came up in the frontof Colonel

Douglass's regiment, and we fired a general volley upon them at about twenty rods distance, and scattered them like leaves in a whirlwind, and they ran off so far that some of the regiment ran out to the ground where they were, when we fired upon them, and brought off their arms and accoutrements, and rum that the men who fell had with them, which we had time to drink round with, before they came on again. They formed at a distance, and waited till their artillery and main body came on, when they advanced in solid columns upon us, and were gathering all round us, ten to our one. Colonel Douglass and Colonel Sillimand's regiments fired four or five times on them, as they were advancing, and thus retreated, but not till the enemy bwgan to fire on their flanks. Colonel Sillimand, Douglass and Arnold behaved nobly, and the men gained much applause. Colonel Webbs, Sillimand, and Douglass's regiments had the principal share in the action. Colonel Webb had four killed, and wight or ten wounded. Colonel Sillimand lost six. Colonel Brooks's, Smallwood's and Ritzma's regiments who were drawn up on the hill near the lines suffered considerably; our loss in the whole may be about eighty killed and wounded. It is said by all the deserters and captives, who agreed in their stories, that the enemy had about three hundred killed and wounded. The scene was grand and solemn, and the adjacent hills smoked as though on fire, and bellowed and trembled with a perpetual cannonade and fire of field pieces, hobits and mortars. The air groaned with streams of cannon and musket shot; the air and hills smoked and echoed terribly with the bursting of shells, the fences and walls were knocked down, and torn to pieces, and men's legs, arms and bodies, mangled with cannon and grape shot all round us.

I was in the action and under as good advantages as any one man perhaps to observe all that passed, and write these particulars of the action from my own observation. No general action was designed on our part, and I believe one thousand men were never engaged at any time with the enemy. They came on to the hills opposite our lines and halted, and after cannonading some time part of the lines a short time, they became very still and quiet.

On the 31st it was observed that they had near finished four or batteries which they had erected against us, and as our ground near the center of the town at White Plains was not good, being overlooked by neighboring hills, the General, last night, drew off most of the troops from the lines there, and this morning the guards and sentries burned the town and storage all around it, and came off about nine o'clock.

We had carried off all our stores and planted our artillery on the hills about a mile and a half back, of the center of this town. The enemy advanced in the forenoon on to the ground we left, and as soon as they came over the hill, we saluted them with our cannon and field pieces, and they advanced no further. Our sick and wounded are sent out a few miles. Our men are in good spirits and with much patience endure the hardships and fatigue. I believe the main body of the enemy lie off against us, and that they have formed no lines across the country as yet, below us. Their light house may possibly scour across as far as the River but how that is I cannot determine. All things seem to be quiet at Fort Washington.

November 2, 1776 Large British fleet reported at Red Hook

Fort Lee. Six gentlemen who escaped from the British fleet inform us that there are now seventy sail of transports lying at Red Hook to take in three thousand troops who are going for Rhode Island.

November 3, 1776 Rhode Islanders stage successful raid on Long Island enemy

New Haven. Between three and four hundred troops from the state of Rhode Island crossed the Sound, and landed on Long Island, near Setauket where they engaged a party of the troops now newly inhabited into General Howe's army, commanded by one Smith. Five or so of his men were killed in the action, and himself and twenty three of his company made prisoners, who were brought off, with seventy five excellent muskets. The prisoners are a motly herd, about one half of them being Negros and Indians. Of the Rhode Island troops, one was killed and one wounded.

We hear that near two hundred sail of the enemy's fleet are on this side of Hell Gate, the chief of them lying near Hart Island.

France reported preparing for war

Newport. A man arrived in port says he saw a letter from France saying they would declare war on Great Britain very soon, again affirming similar reports.

Indeed a ship arriving a few days ago from France safely with three thousand stands of arms, three hundred barrels of powder, much tim, dry goods etc. says there is great preparation in France for war.

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November 4, 1776 Martin arrives with valuable cargo of gunpowder

Baltimore. Arrived here, from Martinico, John Martin, in the brig Friendship mounting ten carriage guns, and forty men belonging to this state, with a very valuable cargo, consisting of three thousand two hundred weight of gunpowder, two pieces of gun flints, and four hundred and ten bushels of salt, a large quantity of salt peter, brinstone, sailors' jackets, etc, likewise drugs and medicines. With Captain Martin came passengers from France.

November 5, 1776 British forces leave Crown Point

Ticonderoga. General Horatio Gates in a letter to Philadelphia--Sir, I have the honor to congratulate the Congress upon the retreat of Lieutenant General Sir Guy Carleton, with the fleet and army under his command, from Crown Point. Saturday last, the works being put in the best order, the boom and bridge of communication finished, and every necessary preparative for defense made, I determined to send a detachment down at each side of the lake to beat up the enemy's quarters at their advanced post on Putnam's Point and the opposite shore. About eight o'clock at night the detachment, under the command of Major Delap, proceeded down the east side of the lake, and the other under Colonel Conner, down the west side. Sunday morning, Major Delap, with his detachment, took possession of Putnam's Point, which the enemy had just abandoned, and immediately detached a subaltern, with a small party, to reconnoitre Crown Point. The officer, having returned, reported that he saw the enemy embark a number of their vessels under sail, and the whole preparing to get under way, Colonel Conner, on taking possession of the post opposite to Putnam's Point, found that likewise abandoned. Yesterday an officer, and a party whom I had sent to Crown Point returned, and reported he had been at Crown Point with the inhabitants there, that the enemy were all gone from that post, and the inhabitants would come this day to Ticonderoga, to make their submission, and beg the protection of the United States.

Victorious British heading south from White Plains in N.Y.

White Plains. The enemy made a sudden and unexpected movement from the several posts they had taken in our front. They broke up their whole encampment the preceding night, and have advanced towards Kingsbridge and the North River.

Some accounts make the loss of the enemy on Monday fortnight about four hundred killed and wounded. All accounts agree that Colonel Carr, of the thirty fifthregiment, is among the number of the slain.

Fort Washington takes some British firing

Dobb's Ferry, New York. The enemy struck their tents and marched towards New York with the greatest precipitation, some of the regiments firing at Fort Washington, as they passed by it.

Priority requested for official mail

Philadelphia. In Congress, resolved that all ferry keepers he enjoined, as much as they are able, to expedite the passage of Post riders and other persons charged with letters, despatches or messages from and to Congress, and that it be recommended to the several legislatures of the United States to enforce the observance of this, that expresses and special messengers employed in the public service, taking and carrying private letters or packets, ought not to receive the wages they would otherwise be entitled to.

November 6, 1776 **Enemy tries to outflank our N.Y. troops**

North Castle, New York. The continental army are fronted to the west, extending their line from north to south, near Connecticut's bounds, about the extent of four miles. Lord Sterling's division on the right and General Heath's on the left. The whole encamped on a ridge of hills, some of them almost inaccessible in front, all finely covered with woods. Officers and soldiers in high spirits, loth to give an inch to their enemies, not more sick than may be expected in so numerous an army. The British forces are extended in like manner on another range of hills, near 2 miles distant in open view. The apparent reaon of our retreat is this, the enemy are laboring to outflank us and pass into the country if by any means they might cut off our supplies. The General, divinely inspired, has been apprized of their design, and to avoid a general action at this critical state of our army, had been playing back to give himself more room between the Sound and the North River. Small skirmishes happen, in which we have the better and kill three to one.

American warship's successes are reported

[illegible] We are informed by a private letter from an American ship of war, whose crew and seventy men, sailed from Newcastle the 21st of August, she cruised between the latitudes of 43 and 44, and went to the eastward as far as the longitude of 20 W. having taken three prizes, a whaler and two West Indiamen and having had a very narrow escape from an English frigate after a six hour chase, part of the time within pistol shot. On the 6th of September she went per course for Nova Scotia, and on the 7th had another action with an English frigate, and in the course of an eight hours chase, ridiculed the enemy, and answered his broadside with only a single musquet. The next day she went into Canso and took three English schooners with a Scotch Tory's flag, although the Lavalle and Dawson's brig were within a few leagues distance. The day following she took five sail of Jersey men in Narrow Hook and four more in Peter de Great. It is remarkable that though their men were ten to one, they were so panic struck they not only gave up their ships but even assisted to rig and carry them out of their harbor. The sloop then proceeded the westward, took another whaler on St. Georges Bank, and on [illegible] October 7 arrived safe at Rhode Island, having manned and sent in eight prizes, viz. six brigantines, one ship and one sloop, and sunk, burnt and destroyed eight more, viz. six schooner, one ship and one brigantine, and finished her cruise in six weeks and five days.

Connecticut troops are placed on alert

Hartford. Governor Trumbull of Connecticut has issued a proclamation ordering and earnestly exhorting the militia and all able-bodied and effective men within that state, immediately and without loss of time, to equip and hold themselves in readiness

November 7, 1776

American Warship's successes are reported

Philadelphia:

We are informed by authentic intelligence that an American sloop of war, twlve guns and seventy men, sailed from the Delaware the 21st of August. She cruised between the latitudes of 39 and 33 N and went to the eastward as far as the longitude of 50W. having taken three prizes, a whaler and two West Indians, and having had a very narrow escape from an Enlgish frigate after a six hour chase, part of the time within pistol shot. On the 14th of September she bent her course for Nova Scotia, and on the 20th had another action with an Enlgish frigate, and in the course of an eight hours chase, ridculed the enemy, and answered his broadside with a single musqeet. The next day she went into Canso and took three English schoners with a Scotch Tory's flag, although the Savage and Dawson's brig were within afew leagues distance. Theday following she took five sail of Jersey men in Narrow Hook and four more in Peter de Great. It is remarkable that through their men were ten to one, they were so panic struck they not only gave up their ships but even assisted to rig and carry them out of their harbor. The sloop then proceeeded the westward, took another whaler on St. Goerges Bank, and on October 7 arrives safe at Rhode Island, having manned and sent in eight prizes, viz. six brigantines, one ship and one sloop, and sunk, burnt and destroyed eight more, viz. six schooner, one ship and one brigantine, and finished her cruise in six weeks and five days.

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Hartford:

GOvernor Trumbull of Connecticut has issued a proclamation ordering and earnestly exhorting the militia and all able-bodies and effective men within that stae, immediately and without loss of time, to equip and hold themselves in readiness

to march upon the shortest notice.

New drama about Bunkers Hill is published

Philadelphia. Just published and selling by Robert Bell, price half a dollar, "The Battle of Bunker's Hill", a dramatic piece of five acts, in heroic measure, by a gentleman of Maryland.

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November 8, 1776

Prize vessel captured at New London

New London. Was sent into this port by the Cabot, Captain Hinman, a prize ship bound to Scotland.

More prize vessels captured at Masaachusetts

Salem, Massachusetts. Sent into Salem a prize ship taken by the Dolphin who mounted only six swivels.

Marblehead, Friday last sent in a prize ship by Captain Hawthorne.

Saturday last arrived another prize brig, taken by Captains Skimmer and Tucker.

November 9, 1776 Enemy, leaving White Plains, plunders inhabitants

White Plains, New York. Our advices from the Western army are that the enemy had quitted Whited Plains, having plundered the Tories as well as the Whigs of all their effects, particularly the former. They were stripped, the men to their shirts the women to their shifts.

Help wanted, sober wood-cutters

Philadelphia. Wood cutters wanted. In West New Jersey at the Fork of Little Egg Harbor where sober industrious men may make great wages by cutting pine wood at two shillings and six pence per cord.

November 10, 1776

Capt. Bayley takes two prize vessels

Falmouth, Casco Bay. Arrived here a large prize schooner taken by the Putnam from Falmouth Joseph Bayley command. A few days before arrived also a schooner laden with fruit.

Runaway Negro is reported

Philadelphia. Ran away, a Negro man named Caesar, about twenty two, a smart, polite, likely, well made fellow about five foot three inches high. He took with him a light coloured ratten coat new turned, with plain metal buttons, a dark grey jockey coat moth eaten on the back, sundry jackets and pair of claret color velvet breeches, a pair of white cloth ditto, some white cotton and thread stockings, a pair of shoes, a pair of fashionable plated buckles, a good beaver hat, some linen and check shirts, and may have sundry other things. It is likely he is gone towards the camp, as he is very fond of being a fifer or drummer, and may pass for a freeman, or gone on board some outward bound vessel. Masters of vessels are requested to take care not to carry him off. Whoever takes up and secures said Negro that his master gets him again, shall have twenty dollars reward and reasonable charges.

November 11, 1776

Prize vessel is salvaged

Newport, Rhode Island. The brig taken by the sloop Diamond, Captain Stacey, a few days ago, ran ashore at the eastward, but has since been gotten off, and all her cargo saved, many letters found on board extremely derogatory of us.

November 12, 1776

Peek's Kill is new headquarters for Washington

Peek's Kill, New York. General Washington has removed his quarters from North Castle to Peek's Kill, about 40 miles North of Kingsbridge, a country full of steep, and almost inaccessible mountains, chiefly covered with thick wood. No material movements have taken place except that the army have retired from the White Plains and New Rochelle towards Dobb's Ferry. The people who remained in that part of the country through which they passed have been most cruelly plundered.

Huge British fleet returns to England

New York. About two hundred transports sailed from Sandy Hook for Great Britain under convoy of his Majesty's ships Fowey and Active. In the former his Excellency Lord Dunmore took his passage for England.

November 13, 1776 Alfred takes a British brig and transport

At sea, the Atlantic, on board the Alfred. We have met with contrary winds and stormy weather for this week past, ever since we passed Halifax. We have however taken the brigantine Active, from Liverpool on a private account for Halifax, a prize worth six thousand pound sterling prime cost. But we have besides been remarkably successful in taking the ship Mistick, a transport from London for Quebec, laden entirely with clothing, the last to be sent out this fall, and as all that hath been formerly sent to Canada are taken, this last blow will make Burgoyne shake a cloth in the wind, and check his progress on the lakes. This transport sails very fast, she was lately called the Thunder Bomb, and is now rebuilt, mounted with guns, and made some little defense. As we think her of too much importance to lose sight of, we propose to man her well and keep her with us till our return, which we hope will be very soon. We will sink the Mistick rather than suffer her again to fall into their hands. We have taken in here between sixty and seventy prisoners several of whom are officers and people of condition.

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November 14, 1776 Coast is reported clear for American privateers

Charlestown, South Carolina. A more favorable opportunity for trading adventurers than the present perhaps hardly ever occurred. The coast, we have every reason to think, is entirely clear, and were it even otherwise, the demand for goods occasions such prices being given as amply compensates the risk; besides, insurance can now be had on pretty moderate terms.

Captain Richard Bissell of Rhode Island arrived here yesterday in Bath's pilot boat, which he purchased in St. Augustine. The whole regular force in Florida, he informs, amounts to fifteen hundred men only, and most of them new recruits, whose appearance denotes their late intimate acquaintance with Newgate and the whipping post. He says the Otter and Hinchinbroke lay off St. Augustine bar, and that an armed sloop is stationed in St. John's River.

Tract of good land for sale

Philadelphia. Lands to be sold at a very low price for cash, by Christian Huck, a tract consisting of two thousand acres lying in the county of Berks, within two miles of Schuylkill river, and 30 miles from the town of Reading, the soil whereof is middling rich, and the tract in general well timbered. It is most plentifully watered, so that much meadow may be made on the premises, and there is a sufficient stream thereon for a grist or saw mill.

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November 15, 1776 Connecticut places embargo on linen and cloths

New London. An embargo is laid on the exportation out of this state, of provisions and of linen and woolen cloths, suitable for clothing for the army.

Skinner captures vessel laden with clothing

Boston. Captain Skimmer in a Massachusetts State sloop of war has taken, and carried into Boston, a ship bound to New York having on board seventeen thousand suits of clothes, thirty thousand shirts, thirty thousand stocking pairs, and ditto shoes.

November 16, 1776 Fort at Mount Washington, N.Y. captured by enemy

New York. Intelligence received concerning the surrender of Mount Washington to the enemy while General Washington looked on helplessly from Fort Lee across the Hudson.

Magaw posted his troops partly in the lines thrown up by our army on our first coming thither from New York and partly on a commanding hill laying north of Mount Washington (the lines being all to the southward). In this position the attack began about ten o'clock, which our troops stood, and returned the fire in such a manner as gave great hopes the enemy was entirely repulsed, but at this time a body of troops crossed Harlem river in boats, and landed within the second lines, our troops being then engaged on the first.

Colonel Cadwallader, who commanded in the lines, sent off a detachment to oppose them but they being overpowered by numbers, gave way, upon which Colonal Cadwallader ordered troops to retreat, in order to gain the fort, and the enemy, crossing over, came in upon them in such a manner that a number of them surrendered. At this time the Hessians advanced on the north side of the fort, in very large bodies, they were received by the troops posted there with proper spirit and kept back a considerable time. But at length they were also obliged to submit to a superiority of numbers and retire under the cannon of the fort.

The enemy having possessed themselves of the adjacent ground, which tendered the fort no longer tenable, the garrison surrendered.

The numbers killed or wounded on either side are not yet known, but from the heaviness and continuance of the fire, it is supposed there must have been considerable execution.

November 17, 1776 Spanish Hispaniola is yielded to French

Newport, Rhode Island. Arrived here a vessel from Hispaniola, with advice that Spain had ceded all their part of that island to France, and a large French and Spanish fleet with a large body of troops were hourly expected, perhaps to take Jamaica for Spain.

Valuable prizes taken, one laden with pickled salmon /

Newburyport, Massachusetts. Came in here yesterday a prize brig, about one fifty tons, and today another laden with pickled salmon taken by the same privateer.

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November 18, 1776 New Jersey alerts troops that enemy is coming

New Jersey. Governor William Livingston addressed this message to his militia:

General Howe after having been presented with the fairest opportunity to come to a general engagement with the brave troops of the United States at the White Plains, thought proper to decline a battle and suddenly retreated to New York. In his return thither he invested, with a numerous army, Fort Washington, and by the mere dint of numbers possessed himself of that garrison with considerable slaughter on his side, reported to be equal to the number of prisoners he took in the fortress. This being the only thing of consequence effected by the British arms during a whole summer campaign, the Americans having had the advantage in almost every skirmish, the enemy despairing of conquest, seem determined to plunder, and reduced to the greatest straights for want of forage and provisions, will as there is reason to apprehend, endeavor to make an incursion into this state, to supply those necessities. To check their progress General Washington, whose fame is deservedly above applause, has transported a considerable body of continental troops to the Eastern parts of this state, who with the assistance of our militia will doubtless be able to give them such a reception as their rashness deserves.

As the war in which we are engaged is founded on the principles of self defense and self preservation, and to save ourselves and posterity from the most ignominious slavery...it is expected that the militia of New Jersey will not forfeit by any unworthy conduct, the favorable sentiments entertained of their prowess, but that ambitions of emulating the fortitude of their gallant brethren of South Carolina, who have acquired immortal honor by repelling the

enemy attack on Charlestown they will show, on this important occasion, a spirit becoming a people disdaining slavery.

Congress will borrow funds via lottery

Philadelphia. Congress authorized a lottery for the purpose of raising a sum of money on loan, bearing interest of four percent, for the war. The various classes of tickets were published, and the rules.

November 19, 1776 Albany will be winter station for troops

Mount Independence, Lake Champlain. Our forces are to move to Albany as fast as they can get over the Lake. The enemy has moved into winter quarters in Canada, and there is considerable snow there.

November 20, 1776

Enemy captures Fort Lee, New Jerzey

New York. British General Cornwallis crossed the Hudson at Yonkers and marched southward down the west bank of the river. American troops abandoned Fort Lee in the face of his approach, without a struggle, and retreated to Newark.

Treaty with Indians signed at Fort Pitt

Philadelphia. A treaty of alliance was lately formed at Fort Pitt with the Delawares, Mingoes, and Shawanese. The commissioners and several Indian chiefs are expected in this city tomorrow.

Found: a wandering pig

Newbury, Massachusetts. In the Essex Journal--A pig came to the farm of the suscriber about eight days ago, supposed to be about three months old. The owner may have him again by proving his property, paying the charges and applying to Samuel Emery.

November 21, 1776

Fort Lee's stores are reported saved

New Jersey. Fort Lee having been evacuated by our troops and the stores removed to a place of security, part of the British army, we hear, took possession of it.

Enemy paid dearly in taking Mout Washington

Philadelphia. A report of the killed and wounded in the engagement at Mount Washington not yet arrived. It is certain the enemy have paid dear for it. From the best accounting it appears they have two thousand wounded and killed, which is a greater number than we had engaged.

November 22, 1776

Burgoyne's whereabouts are a mystery

Philadelphia. There are three reports in town concerning General Burgoyne, one that he was killed when it was said that a Brigadier General Gordon was shot, the second that he died of a fever at St. Johns, and the third that he is gone to England. However, it is agreed by all that he does not at present exist in America.

November 23, 1776 Committee is appointed to help Gen. Washington

Philadelphia. Resolved in Congress that a committee of five be appointed with full powers to devise and execute measures for effectually reinforcing General Washington, and obstructing the progress of General Howe's army, and that they proceed immediately in this business.

Found: a wandering cow

Philadelphia.

Near the Three Mile Stone on Germantown road, a red cow, about three years old, and some white on her udder. Whoever has lost the said cow, by applying to the subscriber proving property and paying charges, shall have her again.

November 24, 1776 Enemy now in New Jersey, threatens Philadelphia

Philadelphia. Sir General Howe after having reduced Fort Washington and obtained possession of Fort Lee, is now directing his operations against New Jersey. There is much reason to believe that his views extend to the city of Philadelphia. The forces in New Jersey may be insufficient to oppose his progress. It is therefore indispensibly requisite for the preservation of this state, and the support of the general cause, that troops be immediately raised to reinforce General Washington. In this time of danger it is unnecessary to use arguments with freemen, who are determined never to lose that character but with their lives.

Alfred's prizes are safely landed

Dartmouth, Massachusetts. The brig Active has arrived, taken by Captain Jones in the Alfred, and he has been fortunate enough to take a large and very valuable transport with clothing and thirty soldiers bound for Canada. (see Nov 11)

November 25, 1776 Enemy troops are penetrating New Jersey

Newark, New Jersey. Part of General Howe's army has advanced a few miles into the state of New Jersey and he is preparing with the remaining body of his troops to effect a landing in that state. General Washington is busy in preparing to receive them.

A recipe for pickling beef

Philadelphia. In the Pennsylvania Ledger--An excellent receipt to cure beef. First pack your meat close down in a tub, without rubbing any salt on it. Then take six gallons of water, six quarts of coarse salt, one pound and a half of brown sugar and two ounces of salt peter or any larger quality to the above proportion. Put it in a pot over the fire, skimming it while a scum arises, and when done, take the liquor off and set it by to cool, and when cold pour it on the packed meat so as to cover it with the pickle. This is sufficient to cure one barrel or two hundred twenty pounds, and can be recommended by any persons who have tried it for several years.

November 26, 1776 Foreign troops afflicted with scurvy at sea

New York. By authentic intelligence from on board the fleet from England we are assured that of the six thousand foreign troops in that fleet one fourth part at least were either dead or greatly afflicted with the scurvy.

American frigates return from successful cruise

New York. The Perseus and the Galatea, two American frigates sheathed with copper and reckoned to outsail almost any vessels that can be framed, came into the harbor from a cruise. The Galatea alone has taken or retaken 15 or 16 prizes, and sent them safe into harbor.

Independence takes a valuable prize

Philadelphia. The ship, Sam, lately commanded by Samuel Richardson, was sent into this port, she was taken on her passage from Barbados to Liverpool by the continental sloop Independence Captain Young; was mounted with four guns, and had on board twenty thousand dollars, two tons and a half of ivory, one hundred bars of iron.

November 27, 1776 Philadelphians urged to unite for defense of city

Philadelphia. D. Rittenhouse, Vice President of the Council of Safety, issued this notice today: To the Freeman of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia. Fellow Citizens...It is our duty to inform you that our enemies are advancing upon us, and that the most vigorous measures alone can save this city from falling into their hands. Consider your situation and determine what part you will take. There is no time for delay, and by your conduct the counties will be influenced. We therefore intreat you, by the most sacred of all bonds, the love of liberty and of your country, to forget every distinction and unite as one man in this time of extreme danger. Let us defend ourselves like men determined to be free.

Providence succedds in taking more prize vessels

Newport, Rhode Island. The sloop Providence, Captain Hecker, arrived in port from a cruise in company with the Alfred, having taken a rich ship, a brig, and a snow, and it is said the Alfred and the other prisoners, also prizes are in port at the eastward.

November 28, 1776 Newark falls to the enemy

Newark, New Jersey. British troops under General Cornwallis have taken Newark, where George Washington had brought his troops after their retreat from Fort Lee. The American forces fled to New Brunswick with the enemy in hot pursuit. In retreating they destroyed a bridge at Raritan, and Cornwallis was temporarily stopped there.

Howe on verge of invading Pennsylvania

Philadelphia. Intelligence has been received of the probability of General Howe having made contemplation to invade Pennsylvania. Unanimous approbation was given at a large town meeting for troops to march in to Jersey to prevent it.

November 29, 1776 Philadelphians respond with enthusiasm for defense of city

Philadelphia. At the review of the militia for the City and Liberties nothing could exceed the zeal and ardor of the men, who unanimously turned out volunteers to serve their country at this important juncture.

Prisoners will be exchanged at Brunswick,N.J.

Williamsburg. Six troops of light horse are under orders to proceed immediately to the town of Brunswick in the Jerseys with all the prisoners of war in this state, where they are to be exchanged at the garrison of Fort Washington.

Treaty of peace is concluded with Cherokees

Williamsburg. Colonel Christian has advised that he has returned with his army from the Cherokee country after concluding a treaty of peace with Oueanastota, and three other chiefs on the part of the whole nation, in their capital of Chote, the particulars are following. All captives in their towns white or black are to be delivered up; those belonging to Virginia by the 10th of February, at the Long Island, and such as were taken from the states of South Carolina and Georgia, at or near Keowee, as soon as possible. No white people are to be entertained by the Cherokees, after they are demanded to be delivered up to the states of America. All matters relating to lands, boundaries, trade agents, and people residing amongst the Cherokee, alliances, marching armies though their country, and building forts therein, to be wholly submitted to the Virginia state, with any number of their own chiefs, not exceeding five to determine. War is to cease, and peace, harmony and brotherly affection to take place. For the faithful performance of these articles. They agreed to a deliver up fifteen hostages such as

Colonel Christian should demand of them to be exchanged yearly for such others as the Virginia state may require to be put into their hands.

Colonel Christian thought proper, before he set out on his return home, to make an example of three towns under the influence of a chief called the Dragon Canoe, who was the principal cause of the war, and one other called Chilhowey, where a white prisoner of ours was lately burnt. These he utterly destroyed, but did not other damage to the Indians, whose perfidious conduct on many occasions might have justified a more rigorous chastisement. It is to be hoped, however, that the Colonel's humane treatment of the savages when he had it so much in his power to distress them, will render abortive any future machinations of such incendiaries as Stuart and Cameron to stir them up to war against the United States.

Hancock, sloop, now in Boston

Boston. Came into port bound from Newburyport to Boston, the Continental sloop Hancock, Commodore Manly, of thirty two guns.

Beverly privateer takes valuable prizes

Boston. Came round and arrived at Marblehead a prize ship from the Bay of Honduras laden with logwood taken by a Marblehead privateer the sixth day of her cruise. This is yet another of so many prize vessels taken on their way from the West Indies to America.

The Beverly privateer has taken five empty transports being part of a fleet of two hundred sail, bound home from New York, whether with design to bring over some Hessians or fetch provisions time will discover.

November 30, 1776 New England states to confer on financial problems

Providence, Rhode Island. A committee was appointed by the house to meet committees from the other New England states and confer on proper and effectual measures for supporting the credit of the public currencies, and also for regulating the extravagant prices that are demanded, and unhappily given for various commodities. A committee likewise was appointed to prepare a bill for preventing the pernicious practice of monopolizing.

Captain West takes two prizes

Providence, Rhode Island. Captain West in the privateer Joseph has taken a transport ship that left New York in company with one hundred and thirty sail all in ballast, bound to Europe, under convoy of three men of war. Captain West has also taken a Guineaman that had been captured by a Philadelphia privateer, and twice retaken by the enemy. The privateer that first took her, it is said, found a large sum of money on board which was secured.

December 1, 1776

R.I. asks neighbors for military aid

Providence. Governor Nicholas Cooke issued this appeal for assistance: The enemy's fleet consisting of upwards of one hundred sail of men of war and transports have come into the mouth of the Bay and are now steering up towards this town, both upon the east and west side of Connanicut, who may be here before morning. I therefore earnestly beseech the assistance and aid of our sister states, and that every person capable of bearing arms, will forthwith appear, to stop the progress of the enemy. If they get a lodgement in this town they will soon penetrate the country. You will all come properly armed, with the necessary accountrements; and with blankets, knapsacks, and frech provisions as you can bring with you.

Lovell returns from imprisonment

Boston. Arrived in this town from Halifax, via New York, after a long and cruel imprisonment, the Honorable James Lovell, Esq. to the no small joy of the inhabitants of the Captial of this state.

December 2, 1776 Enemy possesses many New Jersey towns

New York. We hear that Lord Cornwallis with the detachment of the British army under his command, is in possession of Hackinsack, Newark, ElizabethTown, Woodbridge, and the parts adjacent. The Americans have been very busy all the last week in removing goods and stores from Newark to Amboy, for which purpose they have had several small sloops in constant employ, and have carried off an immense quantity of baggage, forage, livestock, etc.

Gates joins Continental Army

Hartford. We hear that the Honorable General Gates with about 2,000 men of the Northern army have joined the Continental army near New York.

Fort Lee evacuee meets Cornwallis

Norwich. Mr. Eben Grover of this town, who returned from the army last evening, informs us that at the evacuation of Fort Lee, as he was coming from the fort he was, after being fired at several times, taken by a small party of the enemy, who took from him his horse and pack, threatening his life every minute, and carried him before General Cornwallis, who examined him and ordered him to be searched; and after breaking open and burning several letters, took his pocket book, which contained several Continental bills, at which they were much diverted, and talked of burning them; but he begged them not to as they would pass among us as silver. After detaining him two days with nine other prisoners, the Brigade Major have him a pass, and informed him that he was at liberty to return home. The General and his officers requested Mr. Grover "to give their compliments to the people of

Connecticut, and that they would come and pay them a visit as soon as they had been to see the Congress". Mr. Grover did not get his horse and pack again.

December 3, 1776 Enemy fleet appears inLong Island Sound

New London. This town was alarmed by the appearance of eleven ships from the eastward, coming into the Sound, most of which appeared to be men of war who by their course, it was apprehended, might be bound into this place, but they went further up the Sound and towards evening anchored under Long Island shore, when being joined by other men ofwar and transports from New York, to the number of near 100, they came to sail and then anchored near Black Point about eight miles west of this harbour, where they now remain. The appearance of such a formidable fleet within one hour's sail of the town has thrown the inhabitants into great consternation.

Enemy ships reported off Cape Cod

Martha's Vineyard. We are informed that two of the enemy's ships have been cruising to the mouth of the Sound between Gayhead and the Elizabeth Islands. It is hoped that those who have any shipping to pass that way will keep a good lookout.

Widespread war is possible

Cape Nichola Mole. A frigate arrived in 35 days from France and brought the lady of Count D'Etang. We have learned that 30,000 troops were embarking at Brest for the West Indies and that the fleet is commanded by Count D'Etang, and that the Court of France would not suffer the Russians to come to America. Spain is making great preparations, and a general war in Europe is likely to take place.

December 4, 1776 Enemy repulsed in New Jersey river crossing

New Haven. A gentleman directly from General Lee's headquarters brings an account that on Thursday last there was a considerable action in the Jerseys between a large body of the militia belonging to that State and Pennsylvania, and several thousand of the enemy, who were repeatedly repulsed as they attempted to cross the river at Aquinac Bridge; that those of them who got over were either killed or taken prisoners, and their loss is considerable.

December 5, 1776 Spanish ports are open to American vessels

Bilboa. In the American schooner Hawk, Captain John Lee is released in Bilboa. Spanish ports as well as French are declared open to American flags. There are constant reports of French fleets arming to come to join America in defending her cause.

Reward offered for horse

Philadelphia. Four dollars reward. Was taken up near the falls of Schuylkill on Ridge Road, a dark bay horse, about six years old, about fourteen hands high, small white blaze in his forehead, some white on his hind legs, ruff long black mane, switch tail, paces, trots and hand gallops.

Enemy brutalizes a Quaker family

December 6, 1776

Elizabeth Island, Massachusetts. The enemy made their appearance with ships in the mouth of the Sound, between Gay head, and the westermost Islands, after cruising two days. Some of the crew went ashore on the outermost island, where was a little hut, after buying a few turkeys, asking the price of sheep, and what force was at Tarpaulin Cove, on Naushaun Island, they went on board ship again, came to sail and run into Robinson's Hole, near which place lived Mr. Jeremiah Robinson, a Quaker who made not the least opposition to their landing, but his family, through fear, which consisted of his wife, an aged mother of eighty years, with nine or ten children, fled to the woods for safety. The enemy landed about one hundred fifty men, plundered and burnt the house in which was all the poor mans beef, pork, roots, butter, cheese, etc. together with all his furniture. Not content with this, they burnt his corn bar in which was all his grain, killed and carried off two or three cattle and hogs; likewise killed and left dead on the ground some of his milch cows, and wounded and mangled others in the most cruel manner. Thus was a peacable and good liver in a few hours reduced to the greatest distress, by worse than brutal enemies.

Captain Nye who was stationed at the cove, with the help of the militia from the neighboring towns, very soon made a strong party, went up to the west end of the island, but they had gone on board their ships, and the next day stood out of the Sound. We have not been able to learn who commanded the ships.

December 7, 1776 British troops are plunderers

Philadelphia. We hear from good authority that the main body of our army is at Princeton, to which place General Washington returned from Trenton. And that the detachment from General Howe's army under the command of Lord Cornwallis and General Vaughn, still continues at Brunswick.

The English soldiers, it seems, were so jealous of the plunder the Hessians got that they likewise insisted upon the same privilege, which General Howe was obliged to allow in order to pacify them and prevent a mutiny. And now the devastation they make, wherever they come, is not to be equalled in history. They make no distinction. Whig or Tory is all one to them.

Captured vessels listed in Rhode Island

Philadelphia. The following vessels taken and carried into the state of Rhode Island are libelled in the court of admiralty there. The schooner Endeavor, Michael Dyer, late master, bound from Bermuda to Halifax in Nova Scotia, taken by the Montgomery privateer, Daniel Rutenberg commander. The brigantine Phoenix commander John Darrel, bound from the port of Quebec, in Canada to the island of Grenada, taken by the Greenwich privateer, Job Pierce commander; the ship New Westmoreland, commander William Hore, bound to London, taken by the brig Cabot, Elisha Hinman commander. The brig Live Oak, James Wallace master, taken by Diamond privateer, Thomas Stacey commander.

December 8, 1776 Newport,R.I. falls to the enemy

Providence. The British Commodore Sir Peter Parker with about seventy sail of men of war and transports came into our bay from New York, and anchored above the harbor of Newport. On Sunday they landed a body of troops under the Generals Clinton and Piercy, who took possession of the town, the inhabitants having previously determined that the place was not defensible against the enemy's shipping. The few troops we had on the island retreated to Bristol, leaving behind them some pieces of artillery, By the best accounts yet received, the enemy's troops do not consist of more than five thousand men, among whom are a number of Hessians, some horse, and many invalids. They are entrenching, it is said, at a place called Meeting House Hill three miles distant from Bristol Ferry.

From the first appearance of the fleet, the militia and independent companies of this state have been in motion, and are since joined by a large body of troops, with some company of artillery from the neighboring states.

The readiness and zeal manifested on the occasion by the troops of this and our sister states reflect on them the highest credit, and we hope will prove a happy presage of their success should the enemy attempt to gain lodgement in this town or penetrate the country.

We hear that the enemy's troops were escorted into Newport by a set of well known Tories, who have long infested that town, and who may yet possibly meet with the fate justly due to their atrocious villanies.

We learn that two of the enemy's frigates lie at or near Seconet passage, another near Bristol, and a fourth at the North end of Prudence Island.

Princeton, New Jersey. Three villains came to the house of farmer Nowel Furman near Princeton, and after abusing the family in a barbarous manner, took with them goods to the amount of between one and two hundred pounds, consisting of Germantown woolen stockings milled of several colors, large pocket handkerchiefs, of several kinds of red and blue stripes, Kenton ditto, four dozen razors, one pair of four thread dyed black worsted hose, black leather pocket books, pocket almanacks, a few pieces of childrens' garters, and many other goods unknown.

One of the rogues is an Irishman, a middle sized man, well set; had bushy sandy hair, and supposed to be marked with the small pox, had on a blue cloak, his name is said to be Watson, he belongs to Captain Brown's company of Pennsylvania riflemen, under Colonel Broadhead. The second person is not described. The Third is a tall slim man with light colored clothes. It is said they have already changed their clothes. They have with them two rifles and three long swords, without scabbards. They put the goods in bags or knapsacks. It is supposed they are bound for Delaware, and so on to Shamoken. Whoever secures said goods, and the men so that they shall be constricted shall have one hundred dollars reward or fifty dollars for the men.

December 9, 1776

American cause looks bad in New Jersey

Philadelphia. The enemy is at Brunswick, and our army is at Princeton and Trenton. By order of the Council of Safety all business has ceased in Philadelphia. Except preparing to fight. All the shops are shut up. The 13 Philadelphia gondolas are gone and going up to Trenton. The seafaring men have formed themselves into artillery companies and have marched with iron field pieces to Trenton to reinforce General Washington. It is reported that a chance shot, that came across the river killed the second in command of the Hessians. General Lee and General Gates are on their way to reinforce General Washington. The former has got as far as Morristown. Appearances are against us at present but America will be victorious.

Enemy fleet now near Norwalk, Conn.

Hartford. In consequence of the large fleet which appeared off New London last week and came to anchor near Black Point, the Governor, with the advice of the council of war, gave orders for the whole of the militia east of Connecticut River, with three regiments from the west side, immediately to march for that place, but the fleet having disappeared, the orders are countermanded for the present. We are told that about 24 sail of the ministerial fleet are now at anchor in the Sound between Fairfield and Norwalk.

December 10, 1776 Connecticut troops reinforce Rhode Islanders

New London. We learn that the troop of horse from Hartford, and part of the eastern militia of this state(Connecticut) had arrived at Providence; that entrenchments were making at sundry advantageous places on the side of the river below the town; that the enemy since taking possession of Newport have appeared very quiet.

December 11, 1776 Enemy reported heading for Philadelphia

Trenton Falls, New Jersey. A correspondent informs the Essex Journal, as follows: On the fifth I was in hopes that we would be advancing on the enemy. My reason of presuming this was a speedy arrival of General Lee with his division of the army. Our enemy knowing how far he was in the rear, and our weak situation, made a forced march to come up with us, and were within two miles of Princeton when Lord Sterling (American General) made his retreat with two brigades. Boats from every quarter were collected, and our stores together with the troops remaining at Trenton were immediately conveyed over the Delaware. On Sunday morning, having everything over, we crossed the Delaware and took our quarters about half a mile from the river. About 11 o'clock the enemy came marching down with all the pomp of war, in great expectation of getting boats, and immediately pursuing, but of this we took proper care by destroying every boat, shallop, etc. we could lay our hands on. They made marches up and down the river in pursuit of the boats, but in vain. This is Thursday: the enemy are much scattered, some in Trenton, directly opposite, from that on their left to Bordentown and Burlington on the river's banks. The enemy are at least 12,000 strong, determined for Philadelphia, for which purpose they are transporting flat bottom boats from Brunswick to Trenton by land.

December 12, 1776 Enemy captures GeneralLee

Baskenridge, New Jersey. General Lee being at a house here at a great distance from the enemy's army, the house was of a sudden surrounded by 60 of the light horse, who immediately fired 60 or 70 shot into the house, when his Excellency, seeing there was not a possibility of making his escape, surrendered himself a prisoner of war. Upon this, the enemy mounted him upon a horse, without hat or cloak, and rode off with the utmost expedition.

Intelligence of General Lee's unguarded situation was given to the enemy the evening before, by an inhabitant of Baskenridge, personally known to the General, and who had made great pretentions of friendship for the American cause, though at heart the greatest villain that ever existed. This Judas rode all the preceding night to carry the intelligence, and served as a pilot to conduct the enemy and came personally with them to the house where the General was taken.

The Sentry placed at the door saw the light horse coming on the run. He at first supposed them to be ours, but soon perceived his mistake by their swords, which are more crooked than ours, His piece not being loaded, he charged. They rode up to him and said,"Don't shoot, if you fire we will blow your brains out." General Lee cried out, "For God's sake what shall I do?" The lady of the house took him up-stairs, in order to hide him between the chimney and the breast work, over the fire place, but could not, the place being so small. The enemy at this time firing in at the windows, the Captain gave orders to set fire to the house. The General seeing no way for escaping, sent down he would resign himself. They fired three times at his

hat or outside coat, and said, "I hope you will use me like a gentleman, let me get my hat and coat." The Captain said,"General Lee, I know you well, I know you are a gentleman, you shall be used as such. I know you too well to suffer you to go for your hat and coat," and ordered him to mount. Upon which they went off, carrying with them the General and a Frenchman, left the baggage, wounded one of the aids de camps and one or two guards. There were but 13 men with the General. He was about four miles from his division and 1 mile out of the road.

Capt. Champlin takes a prize

Chatham, Massachusetts. Was sent a prize ship taken by the American Revenue privateer, Captain Samuel Champlin.

Philadelphia on alert for enemy attack

Philadelphia. All officers of the Continental army who are now in this city by furlow or order (those expected who are on the recruiting service, or who may have leave of absence in writing from the Commander in Chief) are hereby required to join their respective corps before tomorrow evening. Officers who have the charge of any sick soldiers, in or near this city, and who are included in the foregoing order, are directed to make returns to Dr. Jonathan Potts, at Mr. John Biddle's in Market Street of the numbers and places of residence of their sick, that proper care may be taken of them.

The late advances of the enemy towards this place oblige the General to request the inhabitants of this city not to appear in the streets after ten o'clock at night, as he has given orders to the guard to arrest and confine all persons who may be found in the streets after that hour. Physicians and others having essential business abroad after the hour are directed to all call at Headquarters for passes.

Israel Putnam, General.

December 13, 1776 Philadelphia is reassured by Gen Washington

Philadelphia. The General has been informed that some weak or wicked men have maliciously reported that is the design and wish of the officers and men in the Continental army to burn and destroy the city of Philadelphia. To counteract such a false and scandalous report, we think it necessary to inform the inhabitants who propose to remain in the city, that he has received positive orders from his Excellency General Washington to secure and protect the city of Philadelphia against all invaders and enemies. The General will consider every attempt to burn the city of Philadelphia as a crime of the blackest dye and will, without ceremony, punish capitally any incendiary who shall have the hardiness and cruelty to attempt it. By Israel Putnam, Major General.

December 14, 1776 Philaldelphia militia ordered to report to Putnam

Philadelphia. Major General Putnam being arrived in this city, and having taken upon him the command by General Washington's orders, this is therefore to give notice to all officers of the militia, who arrive from the country, to apply to General Putnam immediately and receive his directions. By order of the Council of Safety, T. Wharton Jr., President.

Enemy raping and plundering is reported

Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The progress of the British and Hessian troops through New Jersey has been attended with such scenes of desolation and outrage as would disgrace the most barbarous nations. Among innumerable other instances the following are authenticated in such a manner as leaves no doubt of their truth:

William Smith, of Smith's farm near Woodbridge, hearing the cries of his daughter, rushed into the room and found a Hessian officer attempting to ravish her. In an agony of rage and resentment he instantly killed him, but the officer's party soon came upon him and he was mortally wounded at his ruined, plundered dwelling.

On Monday morning they entered the house of Samuel Stout in Hopewell where they destroyed his deeds, papers, furniture, and effects of every kind except what they plundered. They took every horse away, left his house and farm in ruin.

On Wednesday last three women came down to the Jersey shore in great distress. A party of the American army went and brought them off, when it appeared that they had been all very much abused, and the youngest of them a girl of about 15, had been ravished that morning by a British officer.

A number of young women in Hopewell, to the amount of 16, flying from their ravaging and cruel enemy, took refuge on the mountain

near Ralph Harts, but they were soon brought down into the British camp where they have been kept ever since.

If these scenes of desolation, ruin and distress do not rouse and animate every man of spirit to revenge their much injured countrymen and countrywomen, all virtue, honor and courage must have left this country, and we deserve all that we shall meet with.

Philadelphia. General Putnam, to his great astonishment, has been informed that several of the inhabitants of this city have refused to take the Continental currency in payment for goods. In future, should any of the inhabitants be so lost to public virtue and the welfare of their country as to presume to refuse the currency of the American states in payment for any commodities they may have for sale, the goods shall be forfeited, and the person or persons so refusing, committed to close confinement.

December 16, 1776 Trenton felt able to withst nd enemy attack

Trenton. Five hundred Hessians and a party of light horse took possession of the city of Burlington, but the rowgallies of Jersey obliged them to abandon it in a few hours. A large body of them was since seen at Coryell's ferry about five miles above Trenton, and smaller parties in different parts of the Jersies. However, as a line of communication is formed on this side of the Delaware for more than 40 miles, the armies under Generals Gates, Sullivan, and Arnold having certainly crossed it and joined General Washington...there is no doubt but the enemy will be repulsed with great slaughter if they should attempt to cross the river.

December 17, 1776 A French fleet is sailing for West Indies

Williamsburg. Fresh and authentic advices from St. Eustatia bring the agreeable news that a French fleet of eight sail of the line, and four frigates, under the command of M. Duchafaux, had sailed from Brest for the islands of Martinique and Guadaloupe, with a number of transports, having on board seven thousand troops and three hundred pieces of ordinance. There is now a very fair appearance of our being succoured by the French nation, which no doubt will effectually divert the attention of Britain from pursuing her diabolical schemes against America, late the land of peace and plenty till invaded by her degenerate sons and their hireling companions in wickedness and brutality, and accursed Hessian banditti, whom God give our soldiers grace and valor to drive out of this continent or to exterminate from the face of the earth.

The properties of tea are described

London. An English newspaper publishes the following article about tea; We know that warm water will promote and assist digestion in weak stomachs and tender nerves, when cold mineral waters, bitters, cordials, and drams, have done rather more hurt than good. Tea is but an infusion of an innocent plant; by its taste it is neither poisonous, deleterious or acrimonious. We are certain that in its use in the countries it comes from (which are larger than most in Europe) that they receive no harm from it, but on the contrary it prompts both digestion and perspiration. However, those who drink tea are advised to drink it no warmer than blood warm whereby they will receive all its benefits and be secure against all the harm it can possibly do.

December 18, 1776 Aesop's Fables published in Philadelphia

Philadelphia. Robert Bell announces the publication of "Select Fables of Aesop"and other Fabulists, in three books, containing: 1. Fables from the Ancients; 2. Fables from the Moderns; 3. Original Fables newly invented, by Robert Dodsley. To which are added Six Oriental Stories, entertaining and instructive, to please and form the minds of youth.

December 19, 1776 Skirmishes reported at Mt. Holly, N.J.

Philadelphia. We hear from good authority that in the Jersies a party of our army under the command of Colonel Griffin had a skirmish with the Hessians, and that the enemy were forced to retreat with precipitation, having some killed, and leaving behind them many knapsacks and other necessaries, amongst which was a hat shot through the crown. But the next morning, the enemy advancing with a considerable reinforcement, supposed to be about two thousand men with seven or eight field pieces, our little army was obliged to retreat (which they performed with great regularity) to prevent their being outflanked by superior numbers. In the evening they had another skirmish at Mount Holly, in which the enemy, as an intelligent person informs, had several killed and wounded. In both skirmishes our people had only two killed, and seven or eight wounded. Our army is at Mooretown and that of the enemy is at Mount Holly.

Firewood will be purchased for troops..or seized.

Philadelphia. A quantity of fire wood is wanted for the troops in this garrison, for which a generous price will be given by the Barrack Master General. It is expected that the sellers of wood will not withhold the necessary supplies at this inclement season. Should they be so lost to all sense of feeling and humanity as not to bring in a sufficient quantity, the Major General will be under the disagreeable necessity of ordering parties out to cut wood where it can be found, as he is determined not to let the garrison or the inhabitants suffer for want of that important article. A good price will be allowed to the owners of such wood.

December 20, 1776 Virginia votes that more troops be raised

Williamsburg. Besides the additional six battalions on the Continental establishment, our assembly have voted three other battalions for the defense of this state, with one thousand three hundred seamen and marines, and the principal rivers to be guarded with strong forts. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the free and independent people of Virginia will second the patriotic views of their representatives by entering cheerfully into their country's service and thereby bring matters to a prosperous and wished for issue.

December 21, 1776 Half of enemy troops at Newport are Hessians

Providence. By some deserters from the ministerial fleet at Newport we learn that the troops lately arrived there consist of about six thousand men, one half of them Hessians, and it was reported on board the fleet that they were soon to proceed to this town.

Company of Carpenters reports two deserters

Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Deserted from Captain Joseph Prowell's company of Carpenters in the Continental service, two men: Thomas Harbeson, about six feet high, of a dark complexion, has a full face and a grum* look; had on a blue outside jacket, old grey cloth breeches, and a round hat; James Young, about five feet six inches high, of a light complexion, and has a grum look; had on a blue outside jacket, buckskin breeches, and an old beaver hat frequently wore cocked. Whoever takes up the said deserters and secures them in the jail in the city of Philadelphia shall have sixteen dollars, or eight dollars for each, and all reasonable charges paid.

* Surly

December 22, 1776 **Massachusetts hit by minor earthquakes**

Boston. A number of gentlemen of character inform us that there have been several earthquakes around Concord and the adjacent towns.

December 23, 1776 Philadelphia pleads for volunteers

Philadelphia. Council of Safety. The present exigencies of the time force us to entreat you to come forth to the aid of our worthy General Washington and our invaded brethren in the Jersies. Step forth like men if you wish to protect your wives, children and property and freedom. If not, the dream of freedom shall disappear. May heaven awaken you to a proper sense of your danger.

Gen. Spencer to share Providence command

Hartford. The Honorable General Spencer passed through this town on his way to Providence, being appointed to command on that station in conjunction with Honorable General Lincoln.

December 24, 1776 Pennsylvanians are warned about the enemy

Philadelphia. In Assembly in response to reports of rape and plunder in New Jersey. That the following address to the inhabitants of Pennsylvania be printed:

Friends and countrymen: It is much easier for you to conceive than for us to describe, the evils consequent on the invasion of a country by a rapacious and plundering soldiery. Such is now the situation of the neighboring state of New Jersey, and such soon will be ours, unless the enemy who have taken advantage of the accidental weakness of our army, to make a winter campaign, are repelled by the strongest and most immediate exertions.

British fleet movements reported in R.I.

Newport. Eleven British transports with a tender sailed up the Western Sound from Newport.

December 25, 1776 Lord Howe releases prisoners at New Haven

New Haven. Arrived here a flag of truce vessel from New York, sent by Lord Howe with 38 marine prisoners, discharged on their paroles, nine of whom being sick were taken care of by the selectmen of the town.

December 26, 1776 Washington crosses Delaware to attack Trenton

Trenton, New Jersey. The New York Gazette reports a great victory gained by General Washington at Trenton. His troops, with about 3,000 men, crossed the Delaware on Christmas night through a very heavy storm of rain, snow and hail, marched nine miles and began his attack about 8 o'clock in the morning.

December 26

Washington crosses Delaware to attack Trenton

Trenton,New Jersey. The New York Gazette reports a grand victory gained by General Washington at Trenton. His Excellency with about 3,000 men, crossed the Dleaware on Christmas evening, and through a very heavy storm of rain, snow and hail, marched and began his attack about 8 o'clock in the morning.

December 27, 1776 Details of Trenton victory reported by Washington

Newtown. General Washington reports to Congress his success at Trenton:

I have the pleasure of congratulating you upon the success of an enterprise which I had formed against a detachment of the enemy lying in Trenton, and which was executed yesterday morning.

The eve of the 25th I ordered the troops intended for this service to parade back of McKenkey's ferry, that they might begin to pass as soon as it grew dark, imagining we should be able to row them all over, with the necessary artillery, by twelve o'clock, and that we might easily arrive at Trenton by five in the morning, the distance being about nine miles. But the quantity of ice, made that night, impeded the passage of the boats so much, that it was three o'clock before the artillery could all be got over, and near four before the troops took up their lines of march.

I formed my detachment into two divisions, one to march up the Lower or River Road, and the other by the Upper or Pennington Road. As the divisions had nearly the same distance to march, I ordered each of them, immediately upon forcing the outguards, to push directly into the town that they might charge the enemy before they had time to form. The upper division arrived at the enemy's advanced post exactly at eight o'clock, and in three minutes after I found from the fire on the lower road, that the division had also got up. The outguards made but small opposition, though, for their number, they behaved very well, keeping up a constant retreating fire from behind houses.

We presently saw their main body formed but from their motions, they seemed undetermined how to act. Being hard pressed by our troops,

who had already got the possession of part of their artillery, they attempted to file off by a road on their right, leading to Princeton, but perceiving their intention, I threw a body of troops in their way, which immediately checked them. Finding from our disposition that they were surrounded, and they must inevitably be cut to pieces if they made any further resistance, they agreed to lay down their arms. The number that submitted in this manner was twenty three officers and eight hundred and eighty six men. Colonel Rohl the commanding officer, and seven others were found wounded in the town. I do not exactly know how many they had killed, but I fancy above twenty or thirty as they never made any regular stand. Our loss is ver trifling indeed, only two officers and one of two privates wounded.

I find that the detachments of the enemy consisted of the three Hessian regiments of Landspotch, Kniphausen, and Rohl, amounting to about fifteen hundred men, and a troop of British light horse; but immediately upon the beginning of the attack all those who were not killed or taken, pushed directly down towards Bordentown. These would have likewise fallen into our hands, could my plan have been completely carried into execution. General Eweing was to have crossed before day at Trenton ferry, and taken possession of the ridge leading out of town, but the quantity of ice was so great that though he did everything in his power to effect it he could not get over. This difficulty also hindered General Cadwallader from crossing, with the Pennsylvania militia, from Bristol; he got part of his foot over, but finding it impossible to embark his artillery, he was obliged to desist and fully confident that could the troops under General's Eweing and Cadwallader have passed the river, I should have been

able with their assistance, to have driven the enemy from all their posts below Trenton. But the numbers I had with me being inferior to theirs below me, and a strong battalion of light infantry being at Princeton, above me, I thought it most prudent to return the same evening with the prisoners, and the artillery we had taken. We found no stores of any consequence in the town.

In justice to the officers and men I must add that their behavior upon this occasion reflects the highest honor upon them. The difficulty of passing the river in a very severe night, and the march though a violent storm of snow and hail, did not the least abate their ardor, so when they came to the charge, each seemed to vie with the other in pressing forward, and were I to give the preference to any particular corps I should do great injustice to the others.

Colonel Baylor, my first aid de camp, will have the honor of delivering this to you,and from him you may be made acquainted with many other particulars, his spirited behavior upon every occasion requires me to recommend him to your particular notice.

I have the honor to be with great respect your most humble servant. General Washington.

P.S. A list of stores and prisoners taken was also enclosed: total one Colonel, 2 Lieutenant Colonels, 3 Majors, 4 Captains, 8 Lieutenants, 12 Ensigns, 2 Surgeons, 92 sergeants, 20 drummers, 9 musicians, 25 officers servants, 740 rank and file, 918 prisoners.

Six double fortified brass, three pounders with carriages complete.

Three ammunition wagons, 12 drums, 4 colors, as many muskets and bayonnets, and cartouch boxes, and swords as there are prisoners.

Trenton. Colonel Rohl, Hessian commander, died from the wounds he received in yesterday's action.

Refusers of Continental currency will be punished

Philadelphia. Congress resolved: that the council of safety be requested to take the most vigorous and speedy measures for punishing all such as shall refuse Continental currency and that the General be directed to give all necessary aid to the Council of Safety for carrying their measures on this subject into effectual execution.

Capt. Lilly takes a prize

Williamsburg. Captain Lilly of the armed brig Liberty arrived with the Jane, David Wallace master, prize.

December 28, 1776

Philadelphia defenses much underway

Philadelphia. Great exertions are making for the defense of this city, from whence large reinforcements have been sent to join General Washington. General Howe, with about 10,000 troops, is still at Trenton, and a party of the enemy's light horse, with some foot, having proceeded as far as Burlington, were there fired upon by a row galley, which caused them to retreat hastily to their main body.

Gen Gates is now in Philadelphia

Baltimore. Arrived in town from Philadelphia the Honorable Horatio Gates, Esq, Major General in the Continental army accompanied by Colonel Donald Campbell and Lieutenant Colonel Stuart.

American privateer escapes British, butloses barge

Providence. Captain Dennis in the privateer Retaliation, arrived off Newport, and perceiving more shipping in the harbor than usual, sent his barge to view them, which was taken by the enemy. Two of their ships likewise got under way, and chased the privateer, but she luckily escaped, and is since arrived at a safe port.

December 29, 1776 Goddriches escape from jail

Baltimore. Two notorious traitors of the name of Goodrich made their escape from the jail of this town where there was no guard stationed for its security.

Alfred takes prize, loses it, retakes it

Providence. Another prize taken by the Alfred is arrived, after having been retaken by a British frigate, and again captured by an American cruiser.

Dec. 30, 1776

Small enemy patrol is seized

Philadelphia

Seven of the lighthorse of this city took nine light horsemen from the enemy near Princetown without firing a gun.

Sympathy for Hessian Prisoners is felt

Philadelphia

Upwards of nine hundred Hessians who were taken at Trenton were brought to this city. The wretched condition of these unhappy men, most of whom if not all, were dragged from their wives and families by a despotic and avaricious prince, must sensibly affect every generous mind with the dreadful effects of arbitray power.

Congress prohibits export of items need by Army

Philadelphia

It appearing to Congress that it will be extremely difficult if not impracticable to supply the army of the Unites States with bacon, salted beef and pork, soap, tallow, and candles unless the exportation therof be prohibited, it is therefore resolved that export be prohibited and that the execution powers enforce this.

American success at Hackensack is reported

Hartford

A letter from a gentleman at Peek's Kill says our brigade have been at Hackensack, taken two hundred Tories, killed a number and made prisoners of thirty regulars, who were stationed there as guards. We also took a booty worth six or seven thousand pounds.

December 31, 1776

Paine's "American Crisis" appears

Philadelphia. "The American Crisis" by the author of Common Sense(Thomas Paine) appeared today in the Pennsylvania Evening Post.

Enemy reported in/out after Trenton defeat

Philadelphia. By the last advices from the Jersies, we learn the enemy are everywhere flying before our army who frequently take small parties of them. Since the affair at Trenton, it is said, we have taken four hundred, amongst whom are several officers.

Congress decries exaggerated reports of volunteers

Baltimore. Congress advises that we beware overblown reports of how many men we have in our armies which have/the effect of preventing volunteers.

Nurses and attendants needed for sick Philadelphian

Philadelphia. Wanted immediately, nurses and assistants to attend the sick.